

IRISH RADIO
TRANSMITTERS
SOCIETY



1932 - 2007
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

ECHO IRELAND

Journal of the
Irish Radio Transmitters Society
July/August 2007



EI Experimenters and guests at the IRTS stand at the Friedrichshafen Hamfest 2007

See pages 14/15

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News Bulletins and Readers

Sunday			
Dublin	1100	7.043	SSB
Wicklow	1130	3.680	SSB (as Gaeilge)
Dublin	1145	145.525	FM
Dublin	1200	3.650	SSB
Tipperary	2030	145.450	FM
Dublin	2130	145.525	FM
Monday			
Cork	2000	145.750	FM
Limerick	2000	145.725	FM
Louth	2000	145.675	
Galway	2000	145.625	
Tuesday			
Waterford	2130	145.650	FM

Colm EI3H, Sean EI7CD, Gerry EI8CC
Paddy EI7GK, Danny EI6GS
As 1100
Tommy EI7IT, John EI2JB, Andy EI5JF
As 1145

Con EI7DJB, Vincent EI7HN
Brian EI9AL, Tony EI2AW
Peter EI4HX, Thos EI2JD
Aengus EI4ABB, Richard EI5GC

Gareth EI7FZB, Robbie EI8FZB

ComReg Notice

ComReg would like to advise all Experimenters that there is currently a delay in the issue of Experimenter Renewals.

During this delay, unless previously expressly indicated, no experimenter whose fee has been submitted is restricted from operating within normal licence conditions.

Sept 7/8th Leicester Rally

Sept. 23rd Cork Rally

Oct. 21st Waterford Rally

Nov. 4th Foyle & District Rally

Nov. 18th Mayo Rally

New Committee Appointments

Ger McNamara EI4GXB has been appointed as the new Region 4 Representative and has also taken up duty as the incoming sub-manager for the 7 series. While newly licensed, Ger has a wealth of experience in the hobby and he has been a keen Shortwave Listener for many years.

Brendan Minish EI6IZ is the new EMC Officer on the committee.

Brendan brings lots of experience to this post and he will be delighted to hear from members on any EMC related issues.

Our sincere thanks to both members for volunteering their services.

Volunteers Wanted

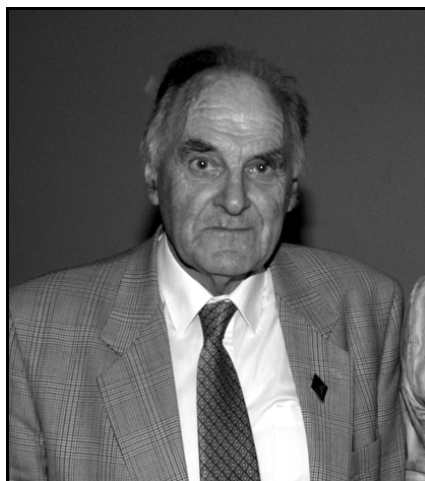
The Society is looking for a new editor for Echo Ireland. If you are interested, please contact any committee member.

Volunteers are needed for the radio news service. There is an immediate need for additional newsreaders to become part of a rota for the Sunday 2 metre news broadcasts from Dublin.

Also required are people to join a rota for the HF news broadcasts on Sunday mornings. These can obviously be located anywhere.

Again, contact any committee member.

Silent Key Sean Cooney EI7GH



It is with deep sadness that we inform you of the passing of Seán Cooney, EI5GH on Friday July 6th after a long illness.

Sean was a very well known experimenter through his club activities, news reading and exceptional attendance at IRTS AGMs over many years.

Anyone who went to Baggot Street in the early to mid 1960's will have had along association with Seán. After Baggot Street, Seán was a founder member of the City of Dublin Radio Club with Dermot EI9BT and John EI8DE, both now also sadly deceased.

He served as Treasurer of the Society for quite a number of years while a SWL.

In latter years he was a founder member of the Howth Martello Radio Group (EI0MAR) at the vintage radio museum in Howth.

Seán was the local IRTS VHF news-reader in the Dublin area. He took this duty very seriously and for many years, Sunday after Sunday, he read the morning and evening bulletins.

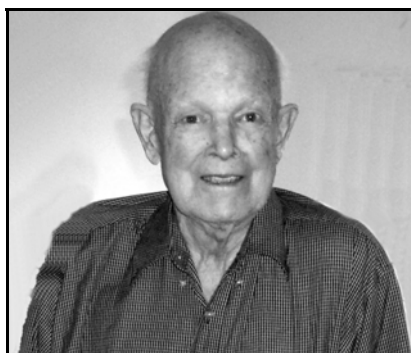
Seán was a great man for attending the IRTS AGMs and rallies and had attended over 30 successive 30 Annual General Meetings until he became ill last November.

He was very sorry that he could not attend the 75th Jubilee event held in Cork earlier this year.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

May he rest in peace.

Silent Key W3JGM (EI2VBV)



It is with deep regret we announce the death of Frank Lewis W3JGM (EI2VBV) of Mount Airy, Maryland USA. who died on 25th. Jul - aged 89.

Although he had no connection with Ireland, he loved the country and was a regular visitor. In total he visited the country on twenty-two separate occasions until he was unable to so due to ill health.

He had many amateur radio friends in EI. He attended the IRTS AGMs on numerous occasions over the years.

Frank worked as a Radio Technician with Radio Television Station WTOP in the Washington area until his retirement.

He then became a full-time farmer - working his 100 acre farm until ill-health forced him to retire for the second time.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his Brother Bill, his Sister Helen and their families.

Silent Key Br. Leo O'Gorman EI3X

Br. Leo O'Gorman EI3X died on May 10th after having an operation for a new hip.

He was aged 90 and got his callsign EI3X in 1948.

He also held the callsign G0ELD while he worked in London after retiring from teaching.

May he rest in peace.

IRTS Committee Next Meeting

September 15th
Montague Hotel, Portlaoise
1100

Silent Key Frank Eccleston EI6BL

It was with great sadness that I heard of the passing of Frank Eccleston EI6BL on the 14th June.

He died after a long illness which he bore with great fortitude.

I was with him about 2 weeks before he died and he was putting a very brave face on his condition.

Frank was a Radio Officer with Marconi for a number of years. After coming home he took up a position with Telecom Eireann as a technician and had many friends in that position particularly while up in Kippure.

In the early 90s he once again worked as an R/O on Italian ships and also for a time in Saudi Arabia on radio maintenance.

Frank liked to work top band where he had many friends but his time was mostly taken up with fault-finding and repairs at which he was very good.

He was well used to my criticism of his CW and he always had the couple focail.

I will miss him as a very good friend.

To his wife Ann, daughter and sons I offer my deepest sympathy.

May he rest in peace

de Brian EI9HY

EI75IRTS

As part of the Society's Jubilee Celebrations, the IRTS has been allocated the call sign EI75IRTS for the duration of 2007.

The licence holder is Finbarr Buckley EI1CS, and with his agreement, the call sign may be used by individual and club members holding a current Radio Experimenter's licence.

Individual and club members of the IRTS can apply to use the call sign EI75IRTS for specific periods during the rest of the year.

More information and a listing of scheduled users is available on www.irts.ie.

The QSL Manager for EI75IRTS is Denis O'Flynn EI6HB.

CQIR

September

29/30th 2007

Sunday morning, late September 2007. Just finished cutting the grass, think I'll check 20m before going down to listen to the 80m news. Whets this? The band is packed with Irish stations...Irish stations from South America, Australia, Canada...there's a Californian station giving his county as Donegal!...

Oh no, it's the CQIR Contest and I've missed it!!!! DON'T BE THIS OP!!!

Seriously though, the pre-event interest in CQIR from overseas is huge and we think that this will be the contest of the decade, there is just nothing else like it on the calendar.

Its more of a QSO party, so if you are not a contester don't be put off, the emphasis is on participation and there are those great prizes which anyone making 75 QSOs can win.

The contest celebrates Ireland and the Irish, where ever in the world they of their forefathers have landed. And, of course, it forms part of our 75th jubilee celebrations.

Between CQIR and AFR175, we expect IRTS to be the best known 'small' society in IARU! We are proud of our 75 years and we can show that pride by putting on a good show of stations from Ireland for the contest.

We have set a target of 250 EI/GI stations active for part or all of the contest....we need your help to achieve this! And we expect 10,000 stations worldwide to be participate in the event.

This is a 'one off' event, not likely to be repeated in many of our lifetimes.

When we celebrate our 100th, you will be able to say 'I remember CQIR...what a day!

No excuses, if you don't have a station, beg borrow or share one. See you on the bands!

See Pages 19/20/21 for full rules

Church Broadcasts on 28MHz

For several weeks now, the weekly news broadcasts have carried an item telling you that it has been established that a Church broadcast is being transmitted on 28.105 MHz FM in the Dublin area.

Some further work is required to identify the Church concerned.

Mass is transmitted at 0900, 1000 and 1100 local on Sundays and at 1000 on weekdays.

Initial bearings would indicate that the transmissions are originating somewhere on the north side of Dublin. It would help greatly if bearings on the station from areas such as Blanchardstown, Malahide and the north side generally could be provided as these would help to further pin down the general area from which the transmission originates .

The local Church notices can be of assistance in positively identifying the Church concerned. If you cannot identify the station and you have a beam antenna you could take a bearing on the peak signal from anywhere in the greater Dublin area which in conjunction with similar bearings taken by other stations could help in locating the source of the transmission.

New reports have recently been received of further transmissions on 28.285 MHz.

We have no information on these broadcasts and they could be from any area of the country so all stations are asked to monitor this frequency at appropriate times and report on anything heard.

The reports on these illegal transmissions are originating in mainland Europe and have been notified officially to IRTS by another National Society.

Reports on these transmissions have been carried on all the major amateur news broadcasts worldwide and the amateur radio world is watching us and waiting on results.

Unfortunately there has been a minimal response to our request for help with this problem.

If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to thoscaffrey@hotmail.com with a copy to Sean Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to ei7cd@gofree.indigo.ie.

The report should include date, time, frequency, signal strength, possible location of station if identified, beam heading in degrees from true north and any other relevant information.

If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given.

Should you hear anything, no action should be taken other than forwarding a report as requested.

It is in our own interests to identify any unauthorised activity so as to preserve the exclusive nature of the 28 MHz allocation.

The matter has already been reported to ComReg who will act on the matter if we can provide appropriate information.

This is not the first occurrence of this nature as a few years ago a report from Italy identified a church in west Dublin broadcasting on the 10m band.



Des Chambers EI5GT and Stan O'Reilly EI7DGB
Pictured at the Friedrichshafen Hamfest

Radio Experimenter Examination

A record number of candidates sat the recent Radio Experimenter Examination at centres in Dublin and Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.

Twenty candidates sat the examination in the ComReg offices in Dublin while twenty-five turned up for the examination in the Carrigtwohill Community Centre.

The exam was held on the same day and time in both centres and all candidates sat the same paper. The total number of candidates presenting, at forty-five, was the largest number sitting the Radio Experimenter Examination since it was taken over by IRTS in 2005 and brings to 111 the total number who have taken the exam in that period.

The results of the recent examination, which have now been communicated to all candidates, show twenty-three passes from forty-five candidates. This represents a pass rate of 51% and is somewhat lower than the pass rate in previous examinations, which tended to hover between 60% and 70%.

The Examination Board has expressed disappointment at the drop in the success rate and has expressed the hope that future examinations will see a return to a higher percentage of passes. Incidentally, of those who failed, seven candidates failed all three sections, twelve failed two sections, while three failed in just one section. If the seven candidates who failed all three sections are discounted, the pass rate would have been 64%

Most European countries (and quite a few outside Europe) either belong to, or are associated with, the CEPT organisation and subscribe to the HAREC syllabus.

HAREC (Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate) is the standard syllabus that now operates in all those countries. As a member of CEPT, Ireland is party to all the benefits and responsibilities associated with HAREC.

Irish experimenters are permitted to operate on the strength of their Irish licences in many parts of the world and indeed may also qualify for a local licence if they go to live in another HAREC country.

Similarly, amateurs from CEPT member or subscribing countries are permitted to come and operate here, subject, of course, to Irish Regulations.

The key to all this is the HAREC syllabus and standards.

To retain our privileges abroad, our examinations must continue to be operated to HAREC standards and HAREC means that anybody aspiring to an Irish Experimenter licence must show a minimum level of competency in technical knowledge and operating standards.

An analysis of the answers to the questions in the recent examination would seem to indicate that while a many of candidates had prepared diligently and had reasonable prospects of reaching the pass mark, others had only a vague knowledge of the subject and were trusting to luck to get them through.

Unfortunately, for this latter group, they are unlikely to get by on luck alone, and need to do further study before they sit the examination again.

IRTS proposed to ComReg that all candidates would be given

details of the marks they achieved in each section of the examination. ComReg readily agreed to this proposal and each candidate now knows where he or she has performed well and, more importantly, where he or she was deficient.

Congratulations to those who passed.

Others did not pass but were reasonably close to the pass marks and with some effort should have no difficulty getting through on the next attempt.

To those we say "don't give up, you're nearly there". To those who now know that they are well below the standard required, there can only be a plea to make a serious attempt to do some study before tackling the examination again.

In analysing the answer papers, some surprising situations emerge. Because the examination is in three sections and a pass is required in each section, difficulties occur where a candidate is strong in, say, the technical sections but weak in the Rules and Operating Procedures section.

It has been said before that it is very important for every experimenter, or aspiring experimenter, to know the Rules and Regulations. That advice still holds! For example, a question on the frequency range of one of the popular HF bands was very poorly answered, as was a question on the permitted modes in a section of Top Band.

Most candidates were unable to identify the main prefix used by radio amateurs in one of our European neighbours, while quite a few failed to identify the ITU emission designation for one of the principal modes used by radio amateurs.

In the Theory Section, the Ohms Law questions were answered well, as were those related to resistance etc.

The paper had two questions that required a knowledge of amplifier classes. Both were poorly answered, as was a question on keying a CW transmitter.

Candidates displayed a reasonable knowledge of Feeders and Antennas but had considerable difficulty with one of the Propagation questions, with many candidates confusing "critical frequency" with "maximum usable frequency".

In general, questions accompanied by circuit or other diagrams were rather poorly answered, but the phonetic alphabet was universally known and the fact that almost everybody knew what to do in the event of a nearby thunderstorm was very reassuring!

The lessons to be learnt from the June 2007 Examination are as follows:

1. A superficial general knowledge of Radio Theory is not enough.
2. Technical Knowledge without the Rules and Regulations won't get you through.
3. Time spent listening on the bands is very valuable and
4. If at first you fail, do some further study and try again. It's well worth it!

The next examination will be in late January 2008



HF Happenings

with
Dave Deane EI9FBB
ei9fbb@oceanfree.net

Welcome to another edition of 'HF Happenings' and it's nice to be back in the general swing of things after short absences from holidays etc. and of course the annual Friedrichshafen trip. So nice to see such a strong 'EI' representation and general attendance there this year. I'm sure that all enjoyed the event and with almost 20,000 visitors this year, one saw exactly that this hobby is far from becoming extinguished! Anyhow, on to the latest news for now.

Soverign Military Order of Malta.

12th July to 22nd July '07 saw Italy's most wanted entity QRV again (S.M.O.M), but this time operating regular callsign 1A0KM. This large multi-national team; DL5MAE, DL6RAI, EA7TF, G3SXW, G3TXF, I0JBL, I0KNQ, I0ZY, I2UIY, I8NHJ, IK0DWN, IK0FTA, IK0FVC, IK0PRG, IW0GIV, IW0GPN, IW0FKK, K5AB, KO4RR & N4WV made 40,200 QSO's over all the 14 various bands and modes.

Anyone who is on 'Logbook of the World' (L.O.T.W) should already have received confirmation as it appears the direct cards will not be mailed until late October. The team have an online photo blog at : <http://1a0km.splinder.com> well worth checking out.

For the statistics and on-line log, check out <http://ww2.pagus.it/webinterface>

Lord Howe & Norfolk Island.

Good news for anyone still missing a few Pacific Islands, they may be able to catch Jack, HB9TL, aka VK6CTL as he activates 2 nice ones in October.

First stop will be from 8th to 17th October '07 as he activates Lord Howe Island as he hopes to operate as VK9CLH.

From 19th to 25th October he'll be on Norfolk Island signing VK9CNF. Look for Jack on SSB only on 80M to 10M. QSL info is via Direct only to HB9QR.

Another operation is taking place also from Lord Howe Island but this time being activated by Haru Uchida, JA1XGI / W8XGI between 19th and 22nd October. He has been issued the callsign of VK9GLX and although he has been granted permission to operate on 40, 30 & 20M, he has also requested permission to operate the lower bands so one may also be able to 'nab' him on 80/160M. QSL to both home calls as appropriate.

Paupa New Guinea.

From Sept. 3rd to 5th October, G4EDG, CT1AGF, SM6CVX & G3KHZ will be teaming up for their IOTA trip to Paupa New Guinea. They will sign P29VCX from Nukumanu Island, OC-284 from Sept. 23rd to 29th and will operate from Takuu Island, OC-283 from 30th Sept. to 5th October signing P29NI.

The team also intend to operate from the Tulun Islands OC-256 however no call-sign information is available on this one yet. The team will be QRV with 3 high power stations into vertical antennas so hopefully there'll be a few good openings into EI.

They may also possibly listen exclusively for EI/G stations occasionally whenever G4EDG & G3KHZ are operating, conditions dependant.

SM6CVX is the QSL route for P29VCX while P29NI goes to G3KHZ.

Kiribati.

Toshi, JA8BMK, is scheduled to go to Canton Island in Central Kiribati and operate as T31XX in late October. He will stay a minimum of one week and will operate from 6m to 160m SSB, CW and RTTY.

Toshi has already started putting the equipment together, generator, food, antennas, etc. etc for another trip to Tarawa in Western Kiribati. He plans to leave Japan in September for T30, via 3D2, and will leave T30 for T31 sometime mid October, reaching T31 after 1 week of sailing. He may be able to get on for the CQWW phone contest. He says that if he has extra time he will visit Banaba Island and operate as T33ZZ. This could either be before or after T31, depending how his travels materialise.

All callsigns are already in order and QSL info is Direct to his homecall, JA8BMK, where a fast turnaround and a full colour card is guaranteed.

Ducie Island.

The following is an extract taken directly from the pages of the Daily DX regarding the preparations of the forthcoming DXpedition to Ducie Island:

The VP6DX team, heading to Ducie Island, has been busy behind the scenes preparing for the much anticipated February 2008 DXpedition, reports DL6LAU, Carsten Esch. The group has decided "to extend the duration of the expedition".

As a result that will increase the budget for this operation. Plans are to depart Mangareva Island, Gambier Islands, French Polynesia via the Braveheart (www.braveheart.pn), on February 5, 2008 and head for Pitcairn Island, which normally takes about 36 hours.

The operators will spend a few hours there before take another 36 hour trip boat ride, still aboard the Braveheart, to Ducie Island. They are planning to arrive at sunrise on February 9th. The only landing area is located on the northeast side of the island and it can be tricky. They hope to be up and running within 24 hours.

The team needs to be back on Mangareva by March 3rd, so they would need to allow about six days in order getting back in time. Looks like if all goes well, including the weather, they will have VP6 QRV for as long as 19 days.

There is a slight chance of a short visit to another uninhabited island (editors note: Henderson Island is the only one on the way to and from Ducie Island) if things on Ducie slow down.

Since the Dayton announcement the operators list has been adjusted.

Unfortunately K1LZ, Krassy Petkov, will not be able to go. The current list of operators is DJ8NK, DL3DXX, DL6LAU, DL8LAS, K3NA, OH2BH, OH2PM, SP3DOI, UA3AB and WA6CDR. The group plans to announce the addition of three more ops in the near future.

The VP6DX DXpedition team will be assisted by a support team.

JA1BK, Kan Mizoguchi, who was the DXpedition leader on the first operation (VP6DI) from Ducie and who supported the second operation (VP6DIA), will be advising the VP6DX team. DF6QV, DJ2YA and OH1JT will be the antenna engineering team.

The team's Webmaster will be DL1MGB. GU4YOX, Bob Beebe, is the electrical team manager and VP6MW, Miralda Warren, is the Pitcairn Island liaison. More support personnel are expected to be announced soon.

Early on the team chose to take radios that would possibly be "the best radio for

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this kind of operation". The team will have seven of the new K3 transceivers thanks to the sponsorship of Elecraft (www.elecraft.com).

Another sponsor for this operation will be ACOM (www.hfpower.com) as the team will have six or seven of the ACOM 1000/1010 amps and one ACOM 2000A (for 160 meters).

Serious efforts are being made in many aspects of this DXpedition including their antennas. They will have two phased verticals on 160 meters aimed at Europe and the US and one vertical will be used to all other areas. Plans are to have two 4 squares on 80 meters, one on CW and the other on SSB, for simultaneous operation. Four Squares will also be used on the 30 and 40 meter bands.

On 10 through 20 meters they will be using phased vertical dipoles.

As you can see, from the list of operators, their time on the island, the equipment and antennas, this will be a serious effort to make Ducie Island available to the DX community. Donations for this operation are being requested, in order to make this operation a success. Your support before the operation is requested, as "all of the expenses have to be paid way before" the team actually depart.

The team members have already put up-front the money. Donations have already been received or promised by the following sponsors: German DX Foundation (GDXF), Danish DX Group (DDXG), Clipperton DX Club (CDXC), Chiltern DX Club (CDXC), European DX Foundation (EUDXF), UK Six Metre Group (UKSMG) and the Central Virginia DX Contest Club (CVCC).

Individual contributions have been received so far from:

K9CT, W2RI, DJ0QN, G4DYO, K7HC, N6OX, DK5WL, DL2OE, K7EIE, DL3JJ, JF7RJM and DL7ZZ.

The budget for this operation is over \$200,000 (USD). Those willing and able can support this operation, with details on the team's Web site at <http://ducie2008.dl1mgb.com/content/view/33/54/>.

Over the next few weeks the VP6DX team will be preparing the shipping container, which will contain the "radios, amplifiers, antennas, generators" etc.

The VP6DX Website (www.vp6dx.com) is constantly being updated and a monthly news letter will be available with all the details prior to the trip. Those

wishing to automatically receive the news letter can go to the Web site and "leave your e-mail address in the News section".

Equatorial Guinea.

Elmo, EA5BYP, well known for his activations from the more 'rare' African entities, is again going on his travels in mid October. From 5th till 14th, he'll be accompanied by KH7Y, EA5YN & EA5BRE and they'll be operating from Bioko Island AF-010. This is of course Equatorial Guinea towards DXCC purposes. He has obtained the callsign 3C7Y and will be QRV on all bands on CW, SSB & RTTY. QSL for this one goes to Elmo, EA5BYP.

Liberia.

Another African one to watch out for is the Dutch team ; PA3A, PA3AN, PA8AD & PA3AWW when they operate from Liberia. The team intend to be QRV between the 5th till 24th October '07 on all bands CW & SSB. Their individual call-signs will be issued upon arrival. Keep an eye on <http://www.liberia2007.com> for further details. PA3AWW will be the QSL route for this one.

UA4WHX.

Just back from his recent ALL African tour, is well known traveller Vlad, UA4WHX.

During this 26 month stint, Vlad went through 2 radios, he lost a finger and he operated from a total of 26 different DXCC entities. Certainly quite an accomplishment!

Not only that, but his logs were all hand written, logging some 310,000 QSOs!! Upon his return to Russia, Vlad almost immediately updated with his QSLing procedure. He says both Direct and Buro cards are all OK, however, naturally the direct cards will get priority.

Although he does have faith in the postal system, he is only looking for IRCs and despite popular belief, he prefers one does NOT send Dollars, as he feels this may cause temptation for the postal service.

He states that he can mail up to 7 QSL cards per single IRC so again, this is evidence that he is not a dollar collector. Please note that Vlad's previous two stints, (Caribbean and Pacific), all had full colour QSL cards and all these operations HAVE been approved for DXCC purposes, so therefore, one can safely assume that this will follow, all in due course. For the full listing of All his operations and dates, check out: www.dailydx.com/UA4WHX/pdf.

Band Reports

Despite the present stage we are at in the sun spot cycle, there are still practically daily openings on all the HF bands.

Some experts claim that although the solar minimum may be past us now, they claim that it may well be into 2008 before we can see a significant improvement in band conditions.

However, the DX is still out there with the lower bands probably being the more productive ones at the moment.

Take a look at the following reports.

This is an extract from my own log from the past period.

Using a TS-850S, 400W and an Antron 99 CB antenna worked the following **10m** contacts : EA6DD, C33PP, HB0/DL1SBF, 1A0KM, EW8AM, TI8II, 4O3A, IS0/IK5EKB, 7Z1SJ, 3V1A, TK/F5TVG, LU3HY, TU2/F5LDY & CT1IZU while same antenna on **12m** worked : LY3M, 7Q7BP, LU1ECZ, IS0UAI, GM4WZL, EA6AZ, LX1DA, OK1TN, LA4WKA, M0TMW, HB0/DJ2IA, MJ0ASP, K1IED, EA9PY & 1A0KM.

15m netted : CT4HIA, MM0SJH, 1A0KM, S57DX, EE5KB, T90HQ, 7X4AN & P3B while **17m** logged : SK0B, OH0/DJ3KR, V60DU, V5/HB9PHJ, P43JB, T960A, FS/CT1BWW, R1FJT, 1A0KM, A25KDJ, MM5DWW, UA2FF, ZC4LI, 4U1ITU & SX5RHO.

Using a 40M performance + windom antenna logged these **20m** contacts : J49A, 1A0KM, Z35T, GB7HQ, 4O3DX, 6W7RV & SB300L while on **30M** netted : OJ0B, SV9GPJ, YU60BCD, SV5DZR, MU/OK4MM, OX3XR, JW/G7VJR, EX2F, 4U1ITU, TF/KL7SB & 4L6VV while on **40m** worked : E21EIC, 3B8CF, TO1YR, LX7I, OH0FJP, GM0B, VE3XN, MJ0AWR, KP2/AA1BU, HC8/LX1NO, FS/CT1BWW, A25CF, FO/N6JA, TR8CA, 1A0KM, A25OOK, TU2/F5LDY, ZP5CGL, KE5AN, WP4NEG, OJ0/SM1TDE, TK5XN & RX9FJ.

Using a full size dipole on **80m** logged : TF3BM, 5B4AIF, 4K9W, OJ0B, ZS6CCY, UN7BEW, LU7HN, EA6AZ, 4L4WW, OY1CT, YO9WF, GD4IOM, OH0Z, FS/CT1BWW, VQ9LA, A25OOK, LY2CO, CX1AA, P40W, YV5AJ, KP2/AA1BU, 3V1A, ZC4LI, PY2YZ, 1A0KM & EK0HQ.

Eoin, EI9O, had some very nice openings into Asia as his log extract shows. Using a Kenwood TS-830S into an 80M

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fullsize dipole logged these **20m** contacts : 3Z100S, 4L4WW, 9K2MU, A41MX, A52AM, CS7HQ, CM8ZG, CT3FT, EA8EQ, EP3HF, EW8DD, F/ EI4HS/M, HZ1SK, OD5NH, ON60NOK, OZ8CTH, PE2HD, PY7ZZ, S52BB, 5B4AHY, SM7JKD, SU5HR, SY8AN, T77M, T93J, TM4KAR, VO1HP/M, UE3MKD & Z32KI.

Using same antenna on **17m** netted : 4X4FR, 5B4AIF, DK2AT, G4YIT, IT9PQI, RK6YYB, T77C & TI8II.

Declan, EI9FVB, has again been QRV on most bands adding 2 all time new ones to his list.

Running an Icom IC-756 pro II into an Imax 2000 vertical logged the following **10m** contacts : T77NM, YZ1AU, LA1YKA, M3KHA, 9A2NA, SV9GPV, CT3FQ, SP6KEP, OZ5EV & LX0HQ while **12m** netted : NG8U, CT4KG, F1RNV, LA2CP, PA7KK, ON4VIP, SV1ENX, GM4LBE, GW3NAS & F5PPO.

Same antenna on **17m** logged : 5P5X, SM4FQW, A41MO, SX5RHO, 5B4AIF, G4DBL & YN2N. Using a MQ24SR antenna he logged these **20m** contacts : CS5CRO, HB0/PA0ABM, HZ1ZH, YN2N, N8OO, SZ2TSL, 3Z50KCR, 7U5CI, GX8LED, EW8AM, OJ0/ OH3RM, LX1AX, OT0M, 1A0KM, ZX5J, JY4NE, ZV5O, P33W, CS26X, CN2PH, PY2DU & J48YL. Using a ½ size G5RV for **40m** worked : SY8WT, A52AM, SV5FRD, LA7YX, LX0HQ, SK9HQ, 1A0KM & OS6A.

Charlie, GI4FUE, has been very busy over the past period logging these following contacts, mostly on CW.

Running an Icom IC-756 pro, 400W into an A3S logged these **10m** contacts : MU0FAL, 4O3A, 3V1A, 1A0KM, T90HQ, S53EO, EA3KU & YT7HQ.

15m netted : OH0R, S50HQ, YL4HQ, A25SL & FY/G3SXW while **20m** logged : PJ7/EA3GHZ, C31CT, VK4WIA, P40W, XE2GG, 8N1HQ, WC1M, R9HQ, VR2C, 8R1RPN, 1A0KM, HP2/CX4CR, FY/G3SXW & YS1ECB.

Using a **30m** dipole logged : MU/ OK4MM, 1A0KM, VP2V/WF5W, OY/ G3TXF, A61Q, HV0A, LX2007L & HB0/HB9CVQ.

Using a Hy Gain Vertical worked : OJ0B, A25OOK, 1A0KM, MU0FAL, 5H3EE, OY/G3SXW & VO1GAM all on **40m** while **80m** netted : A25OOK, GB100TT, MW0HMY, DL0DAN & 1A0KM. Also QRV on **6m** he logged : J79PAU,

LA5YJ, EI75IRTS, T90T, HA1ZH, 9A2KL, CT1EKY, 1A0KM, T77NM, HB0/HB9QQ, EA9IB, K1TOL, SM4DHC & OH1LWZ/M all worked with a 5 element beam.

Nicky, EI9JF, has again been very active over the past period, with almost 2000 QSO's forwarded onto me.

Using a Yaesu FT2000, 400W into a 4 element SteppIR logged these **10m** contacts : TF3SG, HB0/HB9CVQ, MU0GSY, YO3AKK, 8P6EX, LA9JKA, M5AFD, 4X4DZ, FY/G3SXW, 3XM6JR & IS0HQT while on **12m** : ES2NF, LA5UI, OH2BNC, HB9MFM, ON4ACW, SM6JGP, G4KWK, 9A5X, PA5TT, OJ0B, LX1DA, MJ0ASP, 4X4PP, ZC4LI, 3B7SP, FY/G3TXF & ES1QD.

15m netted : OJ0B, T77C, SV9CVY, SX5RHO, GD0BCJ, HC2AQ, TU2/ F5LDY, 3B7SP, C33PP, 5B/G3RWF, K5XQ & OS0S.

17m logged : CP1XRM, FW0MO, A25KDJ, 7Z1SJ, HH6P, TI2ERS, HC7AE, JA9IVJ, 6K0HG, A61Q, ZS6BQI, 3B7SP, VR2PX, YN2N, HP3EFS & MW0EDX while **20m** scooped : R1FJT, HK3JJH, BG1PIP, A71BX, OY4M, HC2AQ, ZF2JW, HS0ZFQ, Z35G, CX5BW, CO2NB, XE1XR, 6L0NJ, TI5GNV, TR8CA, GD4SI, JR5CAG, CE4ETZ, 3V2DA, VK5MAV, HK3Q, 6Y5GC, OJ0VR, VQ9JC, ST2A, KH7F, 3B7SP, A92GR & A52AM.

Using 2 elements for **30m** worked : JA4DND, 9M2/JH3GCN, 4Z5KO, FW0MO, P43JB, TI8II, WP4BH, ZP4KFX, PY2IQ, OX3XR, VP2V/ WF5W, XE3ARV, FY5FY, 5H3EE, LU1EJ, A61Q, VK7GK, 3B7SP, HI0C, VP2EREM & UK8UC.

Using a Cushcraft 2 el **40m** beam he worked : JH6CDI, OJ0B, VK3XU, A52AM, YV5HVS, VP2EREM, CO2NB, HK3CQ, HV0A, XE2MWY, LU4DGX, OY/G3SXW, ZL3DY & VE1DY.

Using a Dipole for **80m** he netted : 5B4AIF, VQ9LA, 9Q1EK, A25OOK, ZS6HA, AA4MM, CX6VM, OJ0/ SM0LQB, LY2X, UA9BA & 3B7SP.

That's all for this issue, I hope many of you work the forthcoming DXpeditions and as always, sincere thanks to W3UR, The Daily DX and to EI9FVB, EI9O, EI9JF & GI4FUE for their log reports which are most welcome.

Vy 73 till the next issue.
de Dave EI9FBB

W8HC Marconi Tour of EI/GI



Hal W8HC and his wife Steph recently completed a very enjoyable and very successful Marconi holiday in both GI and EI.

On Sunday the 5th August they attended the festival in Ballycastle, organised annually by the Marconi Radio Group, and Hal transmitted from their special event station MN0MRG.

On the Monday the Club organised a trip across to Rathlin Island and Hal transmitted from the area of the Eastern Lighthouse. This building was used by Marconi in 1898 to establish a station to transmit the details of ships as they arrived off Rathlin having crossed the Atlantic.

This information was received in Ballycastle and telegraphed to Lloyds.

Hal and Steph arrived in Clifden on Wednesday.

On Thursday Hal carried out an extensive survey of the remaining foundations of the antenna systems at the site of Marconi station outside Clifden. He hopes to gain more knowledge of the antenna system used by the Clifden station which started transmitting to Newfoundland in October 1907.

Hal transmitted from the site and made contacts into Europe and the USA.

He also visited the Station House museum in Clifden to view the Marconi and Alcock and Brown photographic exhibition.

On Friday he visited Letterfrack where Marconi established the station to receive the signals from Newfoundland which allowed duplex operation.

He also visited the photographic exhibition, in the local pub, detailing the construction of the station.

They returned to the States from Shannon on Sunday morning having enjoyed their brief holiday despite the changeable weather.



Pictured at the recent wedding of Eoin EI9O to his new wife Rosaleen are from left to right: George McClarey EI6S, Ciarán Fagan EI3GTB, Mike Mulcahy EI8FG, Eoin Fagan EI9O (Groom), Pat Fagan EI8H, Ruppey Masterson EI2FD.

A great night was had by some 200 hundreds guests in The Crover House Hotel in Co. Cavan.

‘Watts Up’ Meter by Conor O’Neill EI4JN

Every once in a while you come across a truly useful piece of equipment that’s worth telling your friends about.

Here is one such item, the Watts Up meter. Aimed mainly at the RC hobbyist it can be applied gainfully in the amateur radio environment.

It’s described as a watt meter and power analyser.

It measures current, voltage and time and from those measurements calculates peak current (Amps), peak power (Watts), minimum voltage (Volts), power (Watts), energy (Watt-hours) and charge (Amp-Hours) values for you, in real time for the circuit in which you connect it.

The body of the unit is about the size of a cigarette packet. It has an LCD display and pair of wires extending from each end: one for connection to the source and the other to the load. It derives its power from the source circuit.

I ordered mine with Anderson power pole connections at each end so it’s compatible with all my radio kit.

So far I’ve used it to monitor the charge current going into 7Ah GEL cells and my 100Ah lead acid battery which I have for portable operation.

I’ve used it to monitor the current drawn from various rigs in the shack from HTs

to 100W HF rigs. Many 30A DC shack PSUs don’t have Voltage or Current meters on them, the Watts up meter is ideal for measuring load current and volts out.

Last year at the West Cork Rally I erred on the side of caution when I ganged up 400Ah battery capacity to keep a VHF repeater running for 2 days. The last thing I wanted was the communications to go down during the rally for a flat battery. The lads in the club would never let me forget that. I came to that capacity by estimating the current drawn on standby and on transmit and the duty cycle which itself which would vary a lot over a 2 day event.

I came up with a number and doubled it and probably doubled it again. But if I had a device to measure Ah consumed then I could have made decisions based on actual measurement and not estimates.

That’s what prompted me to purchase one and I was able to use it in circuit on one of the repeaters this year. John EI7IG purchased one at the same time and we installed that on the second repeater. Well I can tell you now that each repeater consumed 40Ah over 2 days, where one



day it was busy and the other it was largely idle. So I was well covered last year with 400Ah !

The other useful thing we learned on the rally weekend was that one of the 100Ah batteries which we had borrowed was not in the first flush of youth. With only 15 Ah drawn from it, its terminal voltage indicated that it was half discharged. We immediately swapped it out. Had we not had the measurements from which to draw conclusions, that battery could have let us down on the second day.

The Watts up meter is an altogether useful piece of kit and at a price of around 55 dollars is certainly good value for money.

It is made by RC electronics in the USA and can be purchased from, among other suppliers, www.powerwerx.com

The GE Superadio 3

A user's review by Peter Mac Dougall, G7VEW/EI299

Whether we are SWLs, Radio Hams, DXers or Experimenters we all should have a good quality *domestic* receiver. I have visited many enthusiast's homes and found their 'everyday' radio to be a 'cheapo tranny' tuned to the local inane pop station for background trash or news ... or here in the West of Ireland, country music (Urgh!) and 'The Obituaries'!

But seriously, we all treasure the fine equipment we use for our great hobby and then probably let ourselves down with a nasty little receiver from the 'Everything is 5 Euro' shop, or keep Mum and Dad's nice old portable 'cos it works OK in the kitchen and has the Lancashire Hotpot stains and cat scratches to prove it.

Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to introduce –
The GE Superadio!

I first saw these sets advertised in the Universal Radio and Grove catalogues back in the early 'nineties. The spec looked OK and the price was low but it was an analogue receiver and only covered AM and FM, no shortwave or airband.

ITT, Schaub Lorenz, Sony, Panasonic and Grundig receivers were the 'Rolls Royce' sets then and we mostly wanted digital readout and a few 'bells-and-whistles' for our hard-earned cash.

But reading the advertising guff made the GE-Superadio interesting.

Claims were made that it was the Medium Wave DXer's dream, pulling in long distance stations with outstanding selectivity and it featured 'tuned RF' with the ability to use external antennas.

Over the next few years I noted it evolving into The GE Superadio 2 and then 3 and now the much improved receiver is branded and marketed as the 'RCA - Superadio 3'.

The US dollar is very low at the moment so, this Spring, when my Philips RF1680L had deteriorated so badly that sticky tape and chewing gum would no longer hold the tuning wheel in place, I actually bought one, and I'm impressed.

It arrived from Grove's HQ in North Carolina incredibly well-packed with a large sheet of bi-lingual instructions (Spanish seems to be the second language in the USA now?) and a FCC leaflet on safety and antenna installation.

It is a hefty 13" x 9" black ABS plastic 'lump' with a sturdy carrying handle and it is nearly 4.5" thick. The metal grill conceals a fine 6" speaker and there's a 2" 'tweeter' too.

All controls are to the right and on the right-hand side and a generous 7" dial is 'top-and-centre' just where it is most useful. Markings are for the US ten kHz spacing on AM and every 2 MHz, 88-108 on FM - with a '1 to ten' logging scale above. Things look a bit cramped at the higher ends, I suspect the design was implemented before the medium wave band was extended – but it does go up to 1710.

There are only eight controls on the entire set, POWER on top, TUNING on the right side and then it gets interesting! Three parallel slide switches; the first is the wide/normal filter for Medium Wave, the instructions call this 'the AM Accent' (?), next – band change AM/FM and lastly AFC, ("But not as we know it, Jim!") it's an on/off filter switch for FM



only - but it does help to 'centre' a station and can remove those annoying VHF whistles. Below these there are three nice little knobs, all graduated from one to ten (with a neat red pimple!) for TREBLE, BASS and VOLUME. In actual fact this could be Spinal Tap's radio ... the volume goes way over **eleven** ... but don't try this in the home!

Out in my fields I drew the unwanted attention of a herd of cows half-amile away – with NO distortion!

(Fortunately they are Beef cattle, I'd hate to know what effect the lost dogs and obituary announcements would have on their milk-yield!)

At the rear there are tabs to connect your AM or FM external antennas. More of them later. A well-fitting compartment opens easily to fit 6 'D' cells (the old 'U2' batteries) and there is a neatly folded power-lead for the American 120V domestic supply. **Leave this alone.** Transformers/converters/PSUs are available in Europe but I've never had one that didn't buzz like '*Buzzy*' the-demented-buzzing-thing' when in use.

Anyway, the instructions promise over 400 hours of listening from a fresh set of batteries and they are universally available.

As you would expect for such a basic design there is no learning curve. Just switch on the power, adjust the audio controls to your taste and, in daytime tune the FM broadcast band with the 38" telescopic antenna fully extended.

At night tune the Medium Wave, using the set's own internal 200mm ferrite rod, which may entail swiveling the radio for best reception ... but you know all that don't you!

Then brace yourself. . . . Prepare to be amazed! These are no exaggerated claims!

I'm in a remote area of the West of Ireland and there is hardly anything worth listening to with even 'half an ear' nearby. But The RCA Superadio pulled-in nearly **All** the FM stations from three of the four Irish provinces! (Ulster, Connaught and Munster.)

Forgive a Lancashire expression, "I was gobsmacked!"

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They were all in mono of course although the headphone socket does allow a stereo plug. But I don't care, *my* type of music was made before the invention of stereo and I'm sure the 'death notices' are recorded in mournful mono.

Stations from Donegal to Kerry came booming in along with local broadcasts from just east of the Shannon. Subjectively this is wonderful, I can now hear the price of silage and second-hand tractors - and I can pity all the lost dogs in 13 of the 26 counties! (Local radio is like that here, letters of condolence via the editor please!) A friend has a dedicated FM antenna on his roof and I'm sure that if I erected one I'd be able to hear some stations from Leinster too.

"The AM Dxr's Dream"? Well, I got hooked on American MW stations after broadcast work in the USA and for AFN in Germany. When conditions were just right and the sunspot cycle was kind to us in County Mayo I could hear east-coast American stations on my communications receiver, a Drake R8A. When things are good those Top 40 giants would come booming-in on almost any domestic set too. Don't bother running to your shack, its no good at the moment but I'm sure that the RCA Superadio will be up to the task when conditions improve. I can tell you that with some certainty because I am hearing British and European MW stations that even the Drake has difficulty with, ("grammar, Peter!" - XYL Ed!) in fact much of the UK's Northern and Western areas local AM radio output is now open to me at night.

This radio is VERY selective and VERY sensitive. Having both enviable qualities- in such an inexpensive unit is impressive to say the least.

Oh yes, the price. Well that's a difficult question. In both Grove and Universal's catalogues it is listed at \$55. Converting to Euro or Sterling will help you see your true value but please bear in mind the mail-order/shipping/packaging factor and any nasty surprise that the import tax man may decide to throw at you!

(My naughty mate got his big sister in Michigan to send him a set, marked as - "a gift - radio spare parts - value \$20". ('HI'! - as we hams say while putting up two fingers at the taxman!)

But of course I couldn't advocate similar law-breaking.

To really explore the fun of medium wave you are going to need either a very long wire antenna or an indoor box-loop. These will add a little to your expense even if you can make them yourself but they are well worth the effort and time. One of the commercially made Antenna Tuners will help too. They are not cheap but can be homemade too.

All-in-all, for the extra listening pleasure you'll get the RCA Superadio is a bargain.

It is a well built, easy to operate and economical receiver that deserves most, if not all of the publicity blurb it's been given. In fact it should have more hype. A quick check on the internet confirmed this for me. There are thousands of delighted users out there. I'm glad I'm now one of them and I'd recommend it to any radio fan, newcomer or fellow 'veteran knob-twiddler' alike.

If you buy one please let me know of your catches and DX but don't tell me about any far away obituaries!

73

Peter Mac Dougall, "The Teenage Pensioner"
EI 299 / G7VEW

70th Anniversary of Marconi's Death

July 20th is the 70th Anniversary of the death of Guglielmo Marconi who died in Rome aged 63.

As a tribute, many radio stations throughout the world observe two minutes of silence.

His remains are housed in the Villa Griffone at Sasso Marconi, Emilia-Romagna, which assumed that name in his honour in 1938.

Marconi was born on 25 April 1874.

His mother was Annie Jameson, granddaughter of the founder of the Jameson Whiskey distillery.

Fascinated by the idea of using Hertzian waves for telegraphy without wires, wireless telegraphy, he began his experiments in 1894 near Bologna. In early 1896, at the age of 21, Marconi and his mother travelled to London to seek support for his work. He found his ideas were eagerly received.

In July 1897 the Wireless Telegraph Trading Signal Company was formed with their headquarters in Mark Lane in London and in 1898 the first wireless factory was established in Hall Street, Chelmsford, Essex employing around 50 people.

The distances over which Marconi could communicate rapidly increased and on December 12th of 1901 the letter "S" in Morse was transmitted from Poldhu in Cornwall and received by Marconi personnel in St. John's, New Foundland.

In 1909 he received the Nobel Prize in Physics along with with Karl Ferdinand Braun, "in recognition of their contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy".

As the Hall Street factory became too small for the expanding business the move was made in 1912 to a new purpose built site on the Chelmsford Athletics Ground, in New Street.



Pat Herbert, Curator with 93 year old Tom O'Donnell, EI4Z on his recent visit to the Ye Olde Hurdy Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio at the Martello Tower in Howth.



Using Baluns

by
Tony Breathnach, EI5EM

There are a few misconceptions and misunderstandings going around about balun transformers.

The main misunderstanding concerns when and when not the use of a balun is called for.

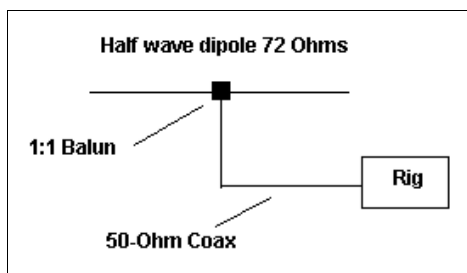
The word Balun is simply derived from the two words **BAL**anced and **UN**balanced.

But what is meant by balanced and unbalanced in RF terms?

I suppose it is fair to say that perhaps many of us radio experimenters are "unbalanced" individuals!

Consider two people sitting on a seesaw (with feet raised from the ground). If one person is heavier than the other then the seesaw will hit the ground at that end because it is unbalanced.

However, if the two weigh the same then the balanced seesaw should come to rest horizontally.

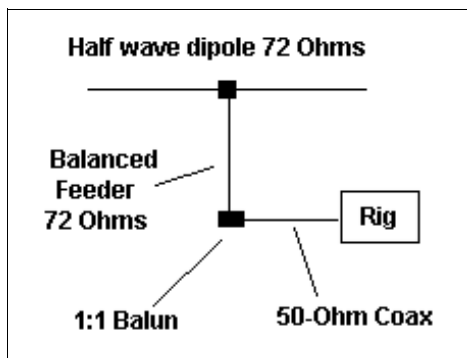


Now consider a horizontal half-wave dipole antenna (468/f feet long where f is the frequency in MHz.).

With respect to the feed point, both halves of the antenna are identical and the system is balanced.

However, a dipole with one side longer than the other (e.g. Windom) would be unbalanced.

Antenna feeder cables are mainly coaxial, ribbon or open wire.



With open wire and ribbon feeders both conductors are identical and we can say that the feeder is balanced.

However, the two conductors in a coaxial cable are different and therefore the feeder is unbalanced.

The general rule is that balanced antennas are fed with balanced feeders and unbalanced antennas and transmitters with coaxial cable.

To deliver maximum power to the antenna, the rig has to see a 50-Ohm impedance. If the impedance is not 50 Ohms then an ATU or RF transformer (including a suitable balun) can be used to match it.

Remember the typical output of the rig is 50 Ohms unbalanced, in which case we would normally use a 50-Ohm coaxial cable.

But what if we have a balanced antenna (half-wave dipole)?

We could run the coaxial cable up to the feed point of the antenna which would have a feed point impedance of about 70 Ohms (close enough to 50).

The system would work efficiently as far as the rig and antenna was concerned but because the balanced antenna is being fed with an unbalanced feeder, there is a danger that the outer braid of the cable could radiate RF energy and possibly cause interference.

We could feed the balanced antenna with 72-Ohm twin feeder, but then the unbalanced output of the rig would be looking into a balanced system.

In each case, a method of converting from a balanced to an unbalanced system is necessary.

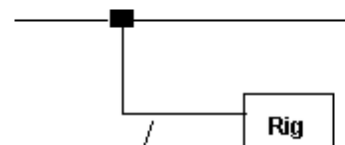
The RF currents in the two conductors of a balanced feeder are opposite and the corresponding RF fields cancel out and therefore there is no feeder radiation. This is true only if a balanced antenna is being fed.

Most baluns are wound on either a ferrite or air core. In either case they are easy and cheap to make and cost a fraction of that charged by suppliers.

Some ATUs have a balun incorporated so that they accept either balanced or unbalanced feeders.

Generally, baluns are either 1:1 or 4:1. A 1:1 balun will transform a 50 Ohm unbalanced impedance to a 50 Ohm balanced impedance or the reverse.

Unbalanced dipole antenna (Windom)



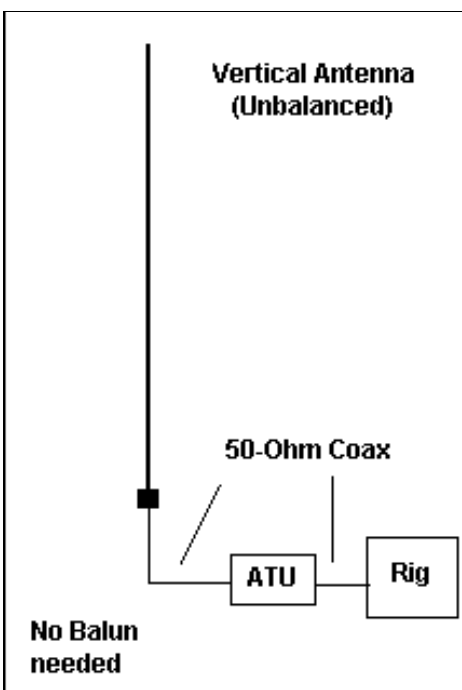
NB. No Balun required but may need ATU for multi-band use.

You could use a 1:1 balun to feed a half-wave resonant dipole and there would be no need to use an ATU. There would be a very slight mismatch between the 70 Ohm dipole and 50 Ohm output of the rig but this would be negligible.

If we had a resonant folded dipole antenna, its feed point impedance would be 300 Ohms balanced. We could feed the antenna with 300 Ohm ribbon.

A 4:1 balun fitted between feeder and rig would then transform the 300 Ohm balanced antenna system into a 75 Ohm unbalanced system.

We could then run 50-Ohm coaxial cable (close enough to 75 Ohm) from the balun to the rig.

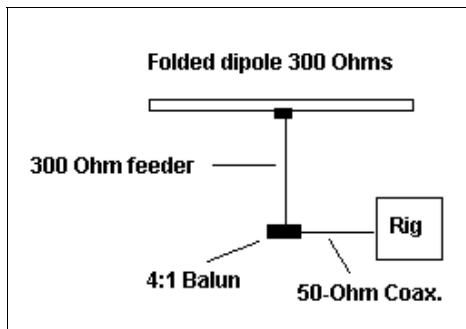


(Continued from page 12)

The accompanying diagrams should illustrate ideal situations.

In the examples above we have alluded to dipoles, balanced and unbalanced.

However, vertical antennas are also common. These use the earth or a ground-plane as the other half of the antenna. It is obvious that these are unbalanced and therefore are normally fed with coaxial cable.



Believe it or not, there are also UNUNs in existence which are simple UNbalanced to UNbalanced RF transformers. These are used in antenna systems for simple impedance matching.

For example, if a vertical antenna had an impedance of 12 Ohms then an UNUN with a 1:4 ratio could be used between it and the rig so that the rig would be looking into a 48 Ohm load. Of course an ATU would achieve the same result.

I hope that I have dispelled some myths about baluns in this brief document.

Tony EI5EM

WRC-07 CEPT Preparatory Group Meeting

The next World Radio Conference, WRC-07 will be held in November of this year. These conferences are extremely important for the amateur service as it is at them that decisions are taken which affect the frequencies available to the amateur service on into the future

A preparatory meeting for the Conference of the CEPT countries was held recently in Gothenburg. IRTS, prior to that meeting, had submitted to ComReg documentation on the issues of importance to the amateur service in the context of WRC-07.

Through ComReg we have received some good news on the outcome of the Gothenburg meeting. CEPT has agreed on a European Common Proposal to support a secondary allocation to the amateur service at 5 MHz by way of a footnote to the ITU Radio Regulations. The footnote proposed will be to the effect that Administrations may allow stations in the amateur service to operate in the band 5260 to 5410 kHz on a secondary basis.

This proposal if adopted at WRC-07 would give provision for a new allocation of 150 kHz with a radiated power not exceeding 24dBW or 250 watts. There was general agreement that this band comes within the scope of Agenda item 1.13 of the WRC-07 Agenda.

The Irish delegation at the meeting is party to the European Common Proposal and will of course be supporting it at WRC-07. With a bit of luck WRC-07 will see us with a new secondary allocation in the 5 MHz region.

For LF enthusiasts CEPT is proposing amendments to Article 5 of the Radio Regulations that will in effect, if adopted at WRC-07, provide a worldwide secondary allocation for the amateur service of 135.7 to 137.8 kHz.

Ireland will be supporting this proposal at WRC-07.

Ireland also supported a proposal which had sufficient support to be carried at the meeting to include on the Agenda for WRC-11 consideration of a secondary allocation to the amateur service in parts of the frequency band 415 to 526.5 kHz.

A proposal which Ireland supported at the meeting for inclusion on the WRC-11 Agenda for consideration of an allocation to the amateur service in the range 50 to 54 MHz throughout Region 1 received insufficient support to be carried.

The IARU Region 1 will have to consider other strategies to seek to achieve this objective.

We would like to express our appreciation to the officials of ComReg and the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources who attended the meeting and for yet again giving their support to the internationally agreed IARU position on issues of concern to the amateur service in the context of WRC-07.



Experimenters Examination at the Community Centre in Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.

Standing centre are supervisors Brendan EI3GV and Sean EI4GK

“Amateur Radio is more” - Friedrichshafen 2007

by Finbarr EI1CS

This was the motto for the 32nd Ham Radio Fair, which took place from 22nd June to June 24th this year at Friedrichshafen on the shores of lake Constance in Southern Germany. This motto states that Amateur Radio is more than just a hobby but represents also a unique combination of communication, technology and sports. It resonated very well with me as my theme for my presidency this year was “enjoying our hobby” and there is so much more to see and do and enjoy in amateur radio



Paul EI45DI, Finbarr EI1CS and Seamus EI8BP

Is it any wonder then why so many amateurs flock from all over Europe and beyond in increasing numbers to view the 200 exhibitors from 30 countries at the Trade exhibition, where in four halls hams will find almost everything in technical equipment, antennas, and accessories and hardware and software etc. In the same hall it was possible to buy a 2 gigabyte SD card for 10 euro and the latest professional transceiver for 16,000 euro - or if one is interested in bring and buy then there were the three other halls containing Europe's largest and biggest radio and electronics flea market. Last of all there was the opportunity to meet hams from all over the world

When I went there last year for the first time, my eye caught sight of an Irish tricolour flying among the radio stands. Curiosity brought me to investigate and there I came across the Irish



Sean EI4GK with Phil Cahill and Geraldine Barry

ballooning and Amateur Radio Club EI2AIR with Aidan EI5HW and Gerry EI9DZ and Sean EI.7CV. The lads had been out the previous year and decided to set up their own stand. Not long afterwards I met some other Ei's who posed the inevitable question as to why the IRTS were not represented there, when so many other societies were. In fact before the day had passed I had met many more EI amateurs who asked me the same question. Having listened to their comments I reassured them that I would look into the matter on my return home.

Of course the idea was a good one, and one that is easy to make, but a lot of planning and preparatory work has to be done first. When I put it to the committee, they too liked the idea but could see that things don't just happen just like that. Would it be the old story that in the end it would be left to one or two when the work had to be done? Still it was our diamond jubilee year and I felt that we needed to take up our place and have a presence in Europe. We began by reserving a stand, which involved correspondence with DARC the German national society; next we had to consider what kind of a display we would need. It must not be cheap or shoddy.



Enda EI2II, Niall EI4CF and Ronan EI8HJ

We had to consider what objects we had to display. Obviously publicising such items such as EI repeaters, and our CQ -EI jubilee contest had to be foremost. This involved designing and having professionally produced posters. Without the help of Seamus McCague EI8BP and Paul Martin EI2CA and Paul O'Kane EI5DI, the final drafts would not have seen the light of day.

I felt also that a little gift would be appreciated by the visitors to the stand, as is common in some of the other stands. Usually this consists of some local product such as sweets or biscuits etc. Some literature about the country such as maps etc. is also appreciated.

We were fortunate in Cork that there is a local factory producing boiled sweets, and with only days to spare Denis EI6HB volunteered to drive to the factory and get a quantity of 1000 sweets which we felt might be enough.

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

I raided the local tourist agency and explained to them that I could provide them with a potential audience of 18,000 possible tourists and so I emerged with the help of one of their assistants to load up my car with nearly every leaflet that they had !. It was only afterwards that I realised that most, if not all, of these leaflets were for the Cork/ Kerry tourism and covered that area! There was also the risk that the boiled sweets would melt in the heat and stick together - hence the suggestion from someone that we should bring a hammer to break them up if they ended up in a lump. As it turned out this did not happen and our fears were groundless. All of this material was then lodged Dave EI4BZ's caravan as he was driving out to Friedrichshafen on the Thursday before the rally began.



Damien EI2HG and John EI8EU

Dave headed off early morning for Rosslare to get the morning boat at 9.am, got a puncture on the way and missed the boat. He got the next boat at 21.00 and got to England. Before he got to Dover to sail to the continent on Saturday he got the sad news of his father's death and had to turn around and come back home complete with all the material for the Friedrichshafen stand. Lucky for us Jim EI8GS was travelling out on the Monday and he brought out the material in time for the rally. I would like to thank Jim most sincerely for all the help he gave us. Not only in bringing out the stand material and for helping out with the stand and photographs but also for taking back a load of "goodies" that members had bought out there. His car and caravan were laden. It was in the true spirit of amateur radio.



Stan EI7DGB, Des EI5GT, Hal W8HC, John EI8EU, Tom EI3ER, Damien EI2HG, Enda EI2II.



Pat Fitzpatrick EI2GX and Sean Carvin EI2CR

The stand was set up on Thursday by Sean EI7CD, Sean EI4GK, Seamus EI3DP and Paul EI5DI and we were ready for the official opening on Friday morning.

The opening address this year was given by Angus Annan MM1CCR the current RSGB president who spoke about the licensing changes in the UK, which were begun by the late Ian Kyle GI8AYZ in 1997-8. and about the challenges that followed.

He summed it up in the last line by saying that "the internet and mobile phones are mere commodities, while amateur radio is an Art and a Science and hobby of international friendships." – how true !



Dave Deane EI9FBB and Ingo Stengel DH5ST

Trade displays and stands were not the only things happening. There were also the lectures and meetings and presentations and live music in the grounds.

The lectures, which were in the main in German, covered such diverse subjects as electronics in school, DF finding, as well as many more.

The many visitors to our stand and signed our visitors book were delighted to see us – and even enjoyed our sweets – so that they were gone in no time.

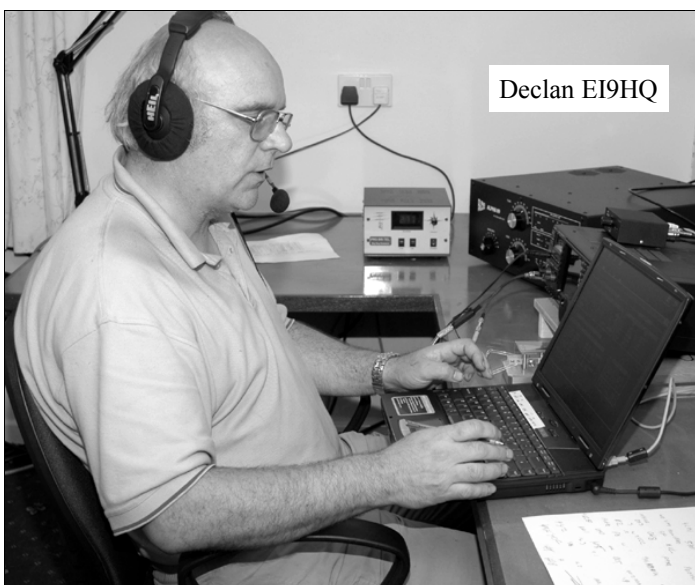
Between 20 and 30 EI members turned up and all agreed that we must be back again next year. That will depend on the help we get.

Again our thanks go to all who helped make it a success.

IOTA Contest at EI9E



Billy EI7FJ



Declan EI9HQ



Michael EI6GF

EI9E operated again in this years IOTA Contest from their station in County Wexford.

The operators were Billy EI7FJ, Michael EI6GF, Declan EI9HQ, and Joe EI7GY,



Contest Corner With Brian EI8IU

IOTA Contest

The Islands On The Air contest was held over the last week-end in July. In this year's contest, two offshore Irish islands were heard, Inis Oírr and Rathlin.

South Dublin Radio Club and friends were on Inis Oírr Island, County Galway, using the call sign EJ0GI, while the Kilmarnock and Loudon Amateur Radio Club, call sign GI3YS, were on Rathlin Island, off the coast of County Antrim.

Numerous mainland stations were also active.

Among the mainland stations, club call signs EI0W (Dundalk Amateur Radio Society), EI7M (East Cork Amateur Radio Group) and EI9E (Network Southern Area Radio Experimenters Club) were active.

At least 20 other EI, GI and MI call signs were heard during the contest, making the Islands on the Air contest one of the more popular international contests in this country.

For Irish stations, 20 metres and the low bands were the key bands this year, although there was some 15 metre activity on both Saturday and Sunday.

10 metres appeared to be open to Ireland only for a brief period on Saturday. While the higher bands may have been disappointing, there was some very good DX on the lower bands, with many VK, ZL and JA stations logged on 40 metres.

The results of this contest, which can be expected before the end of the year, are no doubt eagerly awaited.

2007 CW Field Day Results

	QSOs	Mults	Points	Score
EI2SDR	686	114	2,257	257,298
EI3Z	725	112	2,241	250,992

Only two stations entered this years CW Field Day over the June bank holiday weekend and both operated from Garbally College in Ballinasloe.

Congratulations to South Dublin Radio Club on winning a very close battle with the hosts, the Shannon Basin Group. We look forward to a re-match in the SSB Field Day over the first weekend in September.

Thanks to Paul EI5DI for the GI6YM checklog.

Upcoming EI Contests

Next contest is the 2m Counties on Sunday August 26th followed by the SSB Field Day on September 1/2nd.

Garbally College grounds in Ballinasloe are still available for the Field Day and of course the now famous Shannon Basin BBQ will be held on the Saturday evening.

Please make an effort to be on the air for the CQIR contest at the end of September. It is very important that we have a good EI participation in this event.

See the full rules elsewhere in this issue.

West Cork Car Rally

A Report on Communications

by John Ronan EI7IG

Several months ago, Conor EI4JN mentioned that he would be looking for assistance at the West Cork Car Rally and asked if I would be available to help. When a general request for assistance appeared in Echo Ireland some weeks later, I checked with the XYL and I was good to go.

St Patrick's weekend arrived and reparation began on the Thursday evening. I constructed two short leads with Anderson Power Pole connectors one end and 'choc block' connectors on the other. Into the car with them, went the Power Pole crimper, portable power supply, power poles, Multi-meter, various electrical and RF adaptors, cold/wet weather gear and lastly my 110AH Lead Acid Battery.

I already had a PowerGate PG-40S in the car coupled to a West Mountain Radio Rigrunner for running the radio equipment I have in the car, so I connected the Battery to the PG-40S to maintain the charge on it.

Friday at lunchtime I hit the road for West Cork and met up with Conor, EI4JN and his XYL Nollaig at Garryndruig, located between Bandon and Timoleague. The site for the 1st repeater is really accessible only by 4 x 4 so we transferred some tools from Conor's car to my vehicle and hit the dirt.

Nollaig set off for rally HQ to issue radios to officials of the rally while Conor and I proceeded to head up to the site to erect the Mast and get the repeater on the air.

Conor had earlier set up another repeater West of Clonakilty at a more accessible site

That done we found ourselves in Clonakilty at about 1900 where we hit the showers and went for (free) dinner. That inside us we took over the task of issuing of radios so Nollaig could freshen up and get dinner too. We formulated the plan for Saturday and got to bed around 0100.

Saturday started slowly at about 0700. After breakfast we packed up everything we required.

Service-In still had not collected their radio, so I was dispatched to deliver it and then to check on the repeater and bat-

tery voltage in Garryndruig. I then met Conor and Nollaig at the start of special stage 3.

We went through some of the stages and later we returned to collect my vehicle. Conor and I and headed up to the Repeater in Garryndruig for another check. We did some work there and headed for the second (Sundays) repeater at Foxhaul, again we did some work there before heading back to our accommodation, got cleaned up, got (free) dinner, put some handheld radios on charge, issued some more Mobile radios before finally heading for the bar in the Rally HQ Hotel. We fell out the door about 0230 and headed for bed.

Sunday began even more slowly at 0715, (free) breakfast being the first order of the day, before heading out to the stages.

We did a first pass through the first two stages (9/11, 10/12), and decided to go check on the repeater as it was now running on my (previously untested) 110AH battery. I was confident in its capacity, though it would have been very embarrassing had it let us down on the day. It was fine so we returned to Clonakilty for coffee and a sandwich before rejoining the course cars for the run through stages 11/13 and 12/14.

By this time, all stages were either running or finished, so we returned to our accommodation to collect my vehicle. Conor and I headed out to the Garryndruig repeater to take it down. At this stage the Rally was over and we headed for the Foxhall repeater where we got soaked.

On the way we encountered a car accident where we offered our assistance, helped out where we could (thankfully there was no one injured or killed), and once the Gardai arrived we backtracked slightly (as the road was blocked) before continuing on to Foxhall where we took down that repeater (got frozen and soaked), headed back to the accommodation, where piles of radios and aerials awaited us.

I got (free) dinner before relieving Conor and Nollaig so they could get food, and there was a constant stream of Radio's arriving back to the house.

About 23:00 we had enough and once again retired to the hotel bar (Special Stage 19), where we finally gave up about 0500.

Some personal observations.

This was a much different event that what I would be used to.

- 1) I was operating in an area that I had no familiarity (West Cork).
- 2) Few of the operators use radio in their day to day lives, and
- 3) the rally really can't run without radio so this wasn't just us out 'playing' with radio's, this was a bit more serious.

Preparation is everything. The main reason that the event ran so smoothly from a radio perspective was Conor's preparation for the event.

Saturday morning Conor & Nollaig were able to concentrate on the main task, while I headed off to double check the repeater, this made things easier for everyone.

The food was excellent. The Manager of the Quality Hotel in Clonakilty runs a very tight ship and I was made feel very welcome from all the other members of Cork Motor Club that I bumped into/had drinks with over the weekend.

In summary what a cracking weekend, thoroughly enjoyable, and I found it far more satisfying to be 'part of the solution' rather than just down to spectate.

Activity on the Shannon

Dublin born David Reid PA3HBB/G0BZF will be QRV on HF from various places along the river Shannon from 27th August to 3rd September during a one week cruise.

Most operations will be in the evenings from where ever he is moored and activity will be on 10-80m (mostly CW - QRP) depending on conditions with a K2 and longwire or mobile whips.

6 Metre SSB Net

A six metre net meets on the first Monday of each month on 50.135 SSB (horizontal polarisation) at 2100 (local).

Activity seems to be primarily in the Munster (south-west) area but all are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Frequency: 50.135 MHz

Mode: SSB

Date: First Monday monthly

CQIR - Ireland Calling Contest Rules

Revision 25th July 2007

In 2007 the Irish Radio Transmitters Society (IRTS) celebrates the 75th anniversary of its founding in 1932. As part of the jubilee celebrations the Society is organising an International Radio Contest, "CQIR - Ireland Calling".

CQIR is a once-off event, with a difference - overseas entrants with 75 or more QSOs have the opportunity to win a trip to Ireland.

In these rules, references to Ireland mean the island of Ireland and its offshore islands.

1 Object:

1.1 CQIR celebrates the IRTS Jubilee and the "Irish" amateur radio community worldwide. It's where the Irish, at home and abroad, work the World - and where those of Irish descent identify themselves by including their ancestral county in the exchange, for example: County Cork, County Antrim etc.

1.2 This is an "everyone works everyone" event on the five contest bands from 10 to 80 metres.

2 Date and Contest Period:

2.1 From 12:00 UTC Saturday 29th September 2007 to 12:00 UTC Sunday 30th September 2007.
Note: The contest finishes (is over) at 12:00:00 on the Sunday.

3 Entry Categories:

- 3.1 Irish
Single-Op All-Band CW
Single-Op All-Band SSB
Single-Op All-Band Mixed (CW/SSB)
- 3.2 World
Single-Op All-Band CW
Single-Op All-Band SSB
Single-Op All-Band Mixed (CW/SSB)
- 3.3 Entrants are "Irish" if:
They operate from Ireland, or they were born in Ireland, or have a direct ancestral link to Ireland - with no time limit. Anyone whose partner/spouse qualifies under this section can be Irish too.
- 3.4 All other entrants are "World" entrants.

4 Contest Exchange:

- 4.1 Irish entrants (EI/GI) send a serial and their county code (the county in which the station is located).
County codes are listed in Section 11.
- 4.2 Irish entrants outside Ireland, known as "Overseas Irish", do not send a serial, but identify themselves by sending a 4-digit year and a county code.
- 4.2.1 The year indicates the most recent year they, their partner/spouse or their direct ancestor as relevant, left Ire-

land to live overseas - for example 1849, 1978, 2002.
This year should be the same for all QSOs.

4.2.2 The county code indicates the most recent Irish county resided in by themselves, their partner/spouse, or their direct ancestor. The county code should be the same for all QSOs.

4.3 Other, non-Irish, entrants send a serial, but no county code.

4.4 Serials must be a minimum of 3 digits, with leading zeros as appropriate, starting at 001, and increasing sequentially for each QSO logged.

5 Scoring:

- 5.1 CW QSOs - 3 points.
SSB QSOs - 2 points.
- 5.1.1 Points are doubled for QSOs with "Irish stations", those giving a county code in accordance with these Rules.
- 5.2 The same station may be worked once per band/mode combination.
- 5.3 Multipliers are each different Irish county code, on each band and on each mode. The maximum is 32 per band for single-mode entrants, and 64 per band for mixed-mode entries.
- 5.4 Invalid QSOs, not in conformance with these Rules, score zero points, do not qualify as multipliers, and do not count towards Prize Draw entry.
- 5.5 QSOs logged with incorrect Serial/Year or County score zero points, do not qualify as multipliers, and do not count towards Prize Draw entry.
- 5.6 Penalties:
- 5.6.1 Each QSO logged with a "busted" or "not-in-log" call-sign may, at the discretion of IRTS, incur a penalty of up to three times the expected QSO score, may not qualify as a multiplier, and may cause a deduction of up to three QSOs in the count towards Prize Draw entry.
- 5.6.2 There is no penalty for dupes - they should not be removed from your log.

6 Awards:

- 6.1 For each and every 75 valid QSOs logged, entrants will qualify for one entry to the CQIR prize draw. Two prizes will be awarded, one for entrants operating from outside Ireland, and the other for entrants operating in Ireland.
- i) For entrants operating from outside Ireland:
Air travel to Ireland for the entrant and one other person - with accommodation for one week in Kinnitty Castle, Co. Offaly. <http://www.kinnittycastle.com>.

- ii) For entrants operating from Ireland:
A weekend in New York City for the entrant and one other person.
- 6.2 Prizes are not transferable, and can not be exchanged for cash or other goods. Prize winners must consent to being interviewed and photographed.
- 6.3 Prize winners must bear full personal liability for any delay, injury or incident incurred while away from home.
As such, acceptable evidence of comprehensive travel insurance must be provided to IRTS before travel begins.
Likewise, prize winners must make their own arrangements for acquiring any necessary passports and/or tourist visas.
- 6.4 Time Limit: IRTS will use its best endeavours to facilitate prize-winners' preferences with regards to timing. Nevertheless, a prize-winner who, for any reason, does not avail of the prize within 11 months of the contest will forfeit the prize.
- 6.5 Each entrant with 75 or more valid QSOs logged will receive a participation certificate.
- 7 Conditions of Entry:**
- 7.1 This is a single-operator event for human operators.
- 7.2 The operator must not avail of operating, logging or external assistance during the contest period.

External assistance is "information from any source, other than that already known or possessed by the the operator at the starting time of the contest, sought or acted upon with the intent or potential to increase the operator's score".

Exception: Information obtained by the operator in the normal course of listening and logging on the band(s) and mode(s) corresponding to the entry class is not deemed to be external assistance.
- 7.3 The operator must not volunteer or supply information that might represent external assistance to other entrants. In particular, any use of any spotting network is prohibited.
- 7.4 Cross-band and/or cross-mode QSOs are not permitted. QSOs must take place in the recommended IARU band segments for contest operation.
- 7.5 The operator must not transmit on any other band or mode within 10 minutes of the first QSO logged on a specific band/mode combination. For example, if the first such QSO is logged at 21:02, no QSO is permitted on any other band or mode before 21:13.
QSOs in breach of this rule will score zero points, will not qualify as multipliers, and will not count toward Prize Draw entry.
- 7.6 The operator must not use more power than generally permitted by his/her licence class, regardless of any individual variation(s) or exemption(s) that may have been granted.
- 7.7 Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time.
- 7.8 The operator and the station (all equipment and antennas) must be located within a circle of 500 metres diameter.
- 7.9 The microphone or key(er), transmitter, amplifier (if any) and antennas must be connected by wire at all times.
- 7.10 QSOs must be logged in real-time.
The operator must not use recording equipment to assist with logging or to verify logged QSOs. In this context, "equipment" includes hardware and/or software, even if such equipment is an integral component of the station.
- 7.11 QSOs must not be solicited during the contest other than by calling other entrants directly on-air, by calling CQ on-air, or by the on-air arrangement of skeds with other entrants. Bands or modes or technologies which are not permitted in this event or which do not correspond to the entry class are not considered to be "on-air".
- 7.12 All entries become the property of IRTS.
- 7.13 Entrants agree to be bound by the provisions and intent of these rules. In any dispute, the decision(s) of IRTS alone shall be final.
- 8 Submission:**
- 8.1 Logs must be emailed, as attached uncompressed files, to cqir-logs@irts.ie by 31st October 2007. They must be named YOURCALL.LOG where YOURCALL is the entrant's call used during the contest.
- 8.2 All QSO records in your logs must conform to the Cabrillo specifications in Section 10 of these Rules - based on the specifications for the RSGB IOTA Contest at <http://www.kkn.net/~trey/cabrillo/qso-template.html>.

If your logging software does not support this format, you must prepare your log with software that does, or must reformat your log accordingly.

Logs that do not conform will not be accepted and will not qualify for any award.
- 8.3 Paper logs will not be accepted and will not qualify for any award.
- 9 Logging Software:**
- 9.1 Free software for this event is available from <http://www.ei5di.com/sd/sdsetup.exe>.
SD runs on any Windows PC.
When SD starts, enter a new contest/file name (suggest CQIR07) and select the "CQIR" template.
- 9.2 As and when other contest loggers announce support for CQIR, they will be listed here.

10 Cabrillo Specifications:

Note: - Although there is no requirement in CQIR to exchange signal reports on-air, they must be included in your Cabrillo log.

10.1 EI/GI Entrant - sends Serial & County:

```
-----info sent-----
QSO: freq mo date time call rst nr ex2 call rst nr ex2
QSO: ***** ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ***** nnn nnnn aaa ***** nnn nnnn aaa
QSO: 21222 PH 2007-09-29 1302 GI3PDN 59 001 ANT EI7CC 59 031 DUB
QSO: 21022 CW 2007-09-29 1759 GI3PDN 599 204 ANT HA1AG 599 302 ---
QSO: 7012 CW 2007-09-30 0911 GI3PDN 599 1316 ANT W3LPL 599 1922 COR
00000000011111111122222222233333333334444444445555555556666666667777777778888
1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123
```

10.2 Overseas Irish Entrant - sends Year and County:

```
-----info sent-----
QSO: freq mo date time call rst nr ex2 call rst nr ex2
QSO: ***** ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ***** nnn nnnn aaa ***** nnn nnnn aaa
QSO: 21222 PH 2007-09-29 1359 W3LPL 59 1922 COR EI7CC 59 031 DUB
QSO: 21022 CW 2007-09-30 0359 W3LPL 599 1922 COR HA1AG 599 302 ---
QSO: 7012 CW 2007-09-30 0359 W3LPL 599 1922 COR G4BUO 599 1922 MAY
00000000011111111122222222233333333334444444445555555556666666667777777778888
1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123
```

10.3 World Entrant - sends Serial only:

```
-----info sent-----
QSO: freq mo date time call rst nr ex2 call rst nr ex2
QSO: ***** ** yyyy-mm-dd nnnn ***** nnn nnnn aaa ***** nnn nnnn aaa
QSO: 21222 PH 2007-09-29 1759 HA1AG 59 302 --- GI3PDN 59 001 ANT
QSO: 21022 CW 2007-09-30 0359 HA1AG 599 848 --- W3LPL 599 1922 COR
QSO: 7012 CW 2007-09-30 0806 HA1AG 599 1026 --- UA0QL 599 117 ---
00000000011111111122222222233333333334444444445555555556666666667777777778888
1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123
```

11 -----Ireland - County Codes:

ANT -----Antrim	ARM -----Armagh	CAR -----Carlow	CAV -----Cavan	CLA -----Clare
COR -----Cork	DER -----Derry/Londonderry		DON -----Donegal	DOW -----Down
DUB -----Dublin	FER -----Fermanagh	GAL -----Galway	KER -----Kerry	KLD -----Kildare
KLK -----Kilkenny	LAO -----Laois	LEI -----Leitrim	LIM -----Limerick	LON -----Longford
LOU -----Louth	MAY -----Mayo	MEA -----Meath	MON -----Monaghan	OFF -----Offaly
ROS -----Roscommon	SLI -----Sligo	TIP -----Tipperary	TYR -----Tyrone	WAT -----Waterford
WES -----Westmeath	WEX -----Wexford	WIC -----Wicklow		

'AFRI75' Update

During the IRTS Jubilee expedition to Swaziland the team met with the Scout Association and agreed to support their Thirst for Life Programme which helps Aids orphans in Swaziland.

You will find details of the project on the Afri75 page of the IRTS website.

The team is pleased to announce that the first initial funding for the project of €350.00 is on its way to Swaziland and this will fund the purchase of chickens for their farm.

The money was raised by donations included with direct QSL cards received from stations worked around the world, together with funds raised from the sale of some Afri75 caps at the AGM in Cork.

The team are still anxious to continue support for the project, and if you think you can help please contact Paul EI2CA.

ITU Definitions

Amateur Service:

A radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorised persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.

Amateur - Satellite Service:

A radiocommunication service using space stations on earth satellites for the same purposes as those of the amateur service.

Your Letters

Lost QSL Cards

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you in connection with an article in Echo Ireland Jan/Feb 2007 issue. It is in connection with An Post and posting QSL cards.

I received an envelope some weeks ago with incoming cards but the envelope had come apart and all I received was 6 cards out of approximately 100/150 posted. The envelope was completely open at one end and one side.

Despite several phone calls to customer services in An Post, I got no satisfaction.

What I am suggesting is that an envelope with a large amount of cards should be bound with sellotape to try and prevent the envelope bursting. I am not complaining about the QSL card service, the members involved are doing a great job and when something like this happens with An Post it ruins things.

I help in our local Credit Union and when we post A4 letters we now sellotape the ends as the envelopes were opening at the ends.

Yours sincerely

Tony Darcy EI6AN

A note of caution to purchasers of Equipment in the UK

Information has been passed to us concerning what appears to be a fraudulent operation involving the sale of Radio Equipment and which has been conducted through a series of small ads in recent editions of genuine Radio Magazines.

The equipment is being sold using an address in Oxford and another in the Isle of Wight and is generally described as a 'Silent Key' or 'Per pro' sale.

Payment may be requested direct to an 'Executor' as opposed to the actual person advertising and this scam has already cost one of our more trusting Members in excess of €1500.00 to date.

Members should therefore be aware of this racket and anyone who already suffered loss or who should come into contact with these people are asked to contact Andy EI4ERB @ QTHR or Mobile 086 2752669.

South Dublin Radio Club

South Dublin Radio Club is back from holidays following a successful activation of Inish Oirr in the Aran Islands under the callsign EJ0GI during the Islands on the air contest.

Weekly meetings of South Dublin Radio Club have resumed as usual at 8 p.m. on Tuesday nights in the Ballyroan Community Centre on the Marian Road in Rathfarnham.

SDR members were active during the Lighthouse on the Air weekend on Saturday the 18th and Sunday the 19th of August. They were operating from Saint John's Point Lighthouse in County Down.

Permanent Aerials Installed at EI0MAR

Recently, the Cobweb antenna was erected on the roof of the Martello Tower at EI0MAR (Howth Martello Radio Group).

The Group thanks Jack EI7HX for his kind donation of the antenna.

Previously, a vertical antenna had to be raised and lowered each time the station was activated.

The Cobweb is now permanently installed and allows instant operation of the station by eliminating the hassle associated with the temporary vertical antenna.

On the following weekend a permanent 40 metre dipole was erected and now EI0MAR can be QRV on all bands from 40 to 10. At a pinch even 80 metres can be squeezed in with the LDG Z-100 automatic ATU.



Tony EI5EM, Malcolm EI4IO and John EI7JG



Malcolm EI4IO and John EI7JG



Malcolm EI4IO, Joe EI4FV and John EI7JG



Voluntary Emergency Radio Communications

The Amateur Radio Emergency Network has seen significant growth in the past few years. The organisation provides Voluntary public service and Emergency communications throughout the Republic. The growing resume of events supported include Marathons, Cycle races, Mountain walks and Car Rallies. The fact that we are asked back to assist year after year to the same events is a testament to the capability and professionalism that the individual members and the system deliver.

The organisation is run by the IRTS who appointed John Ketch, EI2GN as National Co-ordinator.

John's Assistants are:

Conor O'Neill EI4JN	Operations
John Ronan EI7IG	Technical
Dave Moore EI4BZ	Financial
Mark Wall EI7IS	Marketing
Declan Horan EI9FVB	Training and Recruitment.

No organisation can function without dedicated soldiers on the ground and membership is made up of active experimenters from throughout the country, with the greatest density being in the Cork-Tipperary-Waterford region.

Event Co-ordinators and assistants plan and manage events locally with the support of the committee.

Training and development is core to the progress of any organisation.

The committee research technical material, attend courses and produce and develop training material for its members. Since the original Basic Manual was produced, texts on

Near Vertical Incident Radiation (NVIS) APRS, Antennas for Emergency Communications, Introduction to Major Emergencies and Search Operations have been produced with more in the pipeline.

During the winter, on-air training nets are conducted on the 40m and 80m bands. These give members the chance to review training material such as the basic manual or modules above, test their NVIS stations and practice net control operation and net discipline.

AREN is at the forefront in evaluating new technologies available to the radio experimenter.

Data modes, digital voice transmission and position reporting are not entirely new but new equipment and new applications are emerging all the time.

Also the emergency services today are far more interested in secure digital data transmission rather than just phone.

Greater traffic densities and data accuracy can be achieved with less chance of sensitive information falling on the wrong ears.

Public service events are critical to the preparedness of members for real emergencies. They develop working relationships between members and facilitate the testing of their equipment in a system that must function to deliver a prescribed level of service.

As skilled radio experimenters, it is through these public service events that we demonstrate to the professional emergency services that we have a valuable service to offer when other communication systems fail due to malfunction, lack of coverage or insufficient capacity.

AREN is committed to the growth of the Amateur radio hobby in general.

Assisting in high profile public events is one way in which we can educate the public about the hobby, its value to those who become licensed and its value to the greater community.

New members are welcome. If you are a licensed experimenter and are interested in AREN's activities contact any of the committee members.

Information on past and upcoming events is posted on the website. Visit www.aren.ie and go to the news page.

Stand at IRTS AGM Rally

AREN had a stand at the IRTS AGM rally in Cork on 22 April. There was an APRS display, an exhibit of the Anderson Powerpole system, the PG-40s power manager/charger, the Watts up meter and many other items of interest.

A Power-pole crimping service was available. Officers John Ronan, Conor O'Neill, Declan Horan and John Ketch were available to discuss past and upcoming activities.

Three new members were welcomed on board.

Dublin Ladies Mini Marathon

The 2007 Flora Ladies Mini Marathon took place on Bank Holiday Monday, 4th June 2007 at 3.00pm. It started from Fitzwilliam Square, and finished in Stephens Green Dublin 2. Sadly this year's event occurred without the familiar voice of Donnchadh O Shea who traditionally operated the net control station. This year's public service event was dedicated to his memory. Great credit goes to Event Co-ordinator George Adjaye and his team for doing a great job again this year.

Waterford Cycle Races

July 1st 2007 saw the 2nd running of the Commeragh cycle club cycle race in recent years.

Following the success of last year's contribution, AREN were asked to assist again.

This year's race ran over the same circuit of approximately on the outskirts of Waterford city. It was on a much greater scale than last year incorporating a national U23 race. The associated vehicular traffic included official cars, team chase cars, TV crews and motorcycle marshals that made for very busy roads.

Parts of the route traversed busy junctions so coordinating the stopping of traffic when riders approach was important to facilitate the free and safe flow of both riders and traffic.

While the cycle club provided the marshals, AREN provided the communications to coordinate the traffic management.

In addition hazards including as a diesel spill and unexpected road-works were among the unexpected issues reported. Communications were through the AREN UHF repeater which was set up for the day.

Considering that in advance of each major junction there is a reporting point. With 4 mobile stations and so many junctions, that results in a lot of messages and a very busy channel. To this end a new operating protocol was developed for this year to minimise the amount of air time required to transmit messages. This kept short and to the point to ensure they all get through in time to manage the traffic at the approaching junctions.

Great credit goes to Event Coordinator Richie Ryan EI9HR, his assistant John McCarthy EI8JA and their team for doing an excellent job.

Tipperary ARG/AREN in the Galtees 2007

More organisation was involved this year as WIT was using this weekend as an initial trial of software developed in the GAISS[1] project. More on that later.

There were roughly 250 walkers out over the weekend. It was pretty intense at times due to bad weather and testing conditions but in the end the following roles were assigned for the weekend:

Saturday:

'A' Walk: Conor O'Neill, EI4JN & John Burke, EI2JB

'B' Walk: Bernard EI8FDB (& YL),

'C' Walk: Eddie Kavanagh, EI3FFB & John McCarthy, EI8JA

Mobile Digi/Voice Repeater 1:

Seamus Ryan, EI8EPB

Mobile Digi/Voice Repeater 2:

Paul Norris, EI3ENB

Base: John Ronan, EI7IG

Sunday:

'A' Walk: Tommy Hallinan, EI2IT

'B' Walk: Bernard EI8FDB (& YL),

'C' Walk: Eddie Kavanagh, EI3FFB & Joe Leahy, EI5GE

Mobile Digi/Voice Repeater 1:

Seamus Ryan, EI8EPB

Mobile Digi/Voice Repeater 2:

Conor O'Neill, EI4JN

Base: John Ronan, EI7IG, John EI2JB & Andy Jay, EI5JF

We were late Saturday morning to the Foot Bar due to a 'software issue' requiring some last minute attention but proceeded to get set up as quickly as possible while the A Walkers headed out to commence their walk.

Saturday

Voice communications were much better than before, though Paul EI3ENB was a bit late getting to his location, this was due to inaccurate directions.

Many thanks to Stephen O'Leary EI6JA for finding the relay site last year.

APRS:

In the rush, one of the APRS trackers on the A walk went out not fully configured and not checked. The remaining one worked perfectly. There was no tracker on the B walk, though the operator gave regular position reports which were recorded and displayed in xastir[2]. The C walk trackers worked fine.

Sunday:

Voice communications were better than in previous years, though weather conditions were very bad and hampered all communications.

APRS:

Deployed trackers worked fine. Setting up the antenna the night before was and still is a good idea, though base operators really should be on-site 30 minutes before registration of the A walk in order to leave enough time to get prepared.

Unfortunately EI7T-1 went down due to a power supply problem, which limited APRS capability south of the Galtees. However the mobile digipeaters we brought meant that we constructed a complete tactical APRS network for the walking festival that was pretty much independent of existing infrastructure (could hear Mt Leinster, but not work through it all the time).

Forgetting the negatives, we did a better job than last year, though we could do it more comfortably if there we had more help especially as we had two/three potential walkers that could have been on the hills instead of back at base or manning mobile stations.

The conditions were possibly the worst we have experienced at the walking festival. Special thanks to everyone who travelled to help and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

GAISS:

Mountain Rescue personnel in Ireland have been recently equipped with Radio's and integrated GPS's (in the Microphone).

These use a protocol called MAP27 to send their position reports to their 'base' radio.

As was mentioned above The TSSG[3] research group in Waterford Institute of Technology[4] along with the South East Mountain Rescue Association[5], used the occasion to test the software being developed by the project.

Though there were teething problems we were successfully able to receive, decode and display the MAP27 packets and also converting and re-transmitting the the MAP27 position reports over the national APRS channel so that any APRS equipped station could see, along with normal APRS stations, the positions of the SEMRA personnel out on the Galtees.

- [1] <http://www.tssg.org/archives/2007/03/gaiss.html>
- [2] <http://www.xastir.org>
- [3] <http://www.tssg.org>
- [4] <http://www.wit.ie>
- [5] <http://www.semra.ie/>

First 40 MHz Amateur Propagation Beacon

The European Radiocommunications Office (ERO – now ERC) of the CEPT launched in March 1993 Phase II of a Detailed Spectrum Investigation (DSI) covering the frequency range 29.7-960MHz.

The results were presented to Administrations in March 1995 with the objective of facilitating a European Table of Frequency Allocations and Utilisations to be implemented by the year 2008.

Regarding the Amateur Radio Service the DSI Management Team recommended (among other things) that 70MHz be considered as an amateur band AND:

“frequencies in the vicinity of 40.680MHz be considered for amateur propagation beacons”.

During the IARU, Region 1, C5 meeting in Vienna earlier this year David, G4ASR, told that the RSGB were planning such a 40 MHz beacon.

I promised him to take a similar initiative when returning to Denmark.

In July the GB3RAL 40.050 & 60.050 MHz VHF beacons were approved and shortly after OZ7IGY received the permit to operate on 40.021 MHz.

On 26th of July (after paying the licence fee) at 1820 UTC OZ7IGY became operational on 40.021MHz near Jystrup (Ringsted), JO55wm, 97 masl/5 magl.

The antenna is a dipole heading 255/75 degrees. Will shortly be changed to a Turnstile (X-dipole).

The output to the antenna is 22 watts keying in F1A (frequency Shift Keying) according to the IARU, Region 1, standard. 250 Hz shift.

The “licence” is valid for a year and the results of the experiments are to be reported to the ITST.

The “licence” is “experimental” on a non-interference basis and will not create a precedent for any other kind of amateur radio activities in this part of the spectrum!

Please report to DX-summit whenever you hear the beacon. Then we can collect data for the report to ITST and may be able to argue for a renewal of the licence next year?

In 1993 the head of ERO was David Court, EI3IO (G3SDL, OZ3SDL etc) I have a feeling that without his “stamp” on the DSI report we would not have had the ever increasing access to 70 MHz throughout Europe or these 40 MHz amateur propagation beacons!

Vy 73 de OZ7IS, Ivan
oz7is@qrz.dk



Ballooning & Amateur Radio Club of Ireland at Friedrichshafen

Gerry EI9DZ, Marvi MI0MRV, Arne LA8HK, Aidan EI5HW, George EI7EC

Squares Table 2007

Callsign	50 MHz	70 MHz	144 MHz	432 MHz	1296 MHz	Total
EI2IP	409	19	78	10	0	516
EI3IO	152	28	0	0	0	180
EI2JD	53	0	4	0	0	57
EI3IX	26	1	4	2	1	34
EI7FAB	44	2	3	3	2	54
EI3GRB	29	0	0	0	0	29
EI7IQ	12	0	0	0	0	12
EI7IG	0	0	1	4	0	5
EI4GHB	0	1	1	1	2	5

This tables show the number of Maidenhead locator squares (e.g. IO63, IN88) worked by EI operators.

Contacts via repeaters or satellites do not count, and no QSLs are required

Updates to VHF Manager - joe_fadden@yahoo.com

Italians get 4 Metre Allocations

Italy is the 34th DXCC entity (28 Europe, 2 Asia, 3 Africa, 1 North America, see <http://www.70mhz.org>) now having a ham-radio allocation in the 70MHz range (4m band).

On July 12th the Italian Authorities released three 25-kHz segments centred around 70,100, 70,200 and 70,300 MHz respectively.

The story began with the request of a few hams to carry out an experimental campaign under the technical coordination of a University and concluded with a general authorization for all Italian amateurs (see <http://www.space.it/70mhz/> with an English summary at the bottom of the page).

Although the authorization expires on December 31st 2007, the prospects of a permanent allocation to Italian amateurs appear good. The band offers opportunities of transatlantic contacts during the summer sporadic-E period (you may listen to the recording of the EI2IP signal as received by VE9AA on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvob5IxAv88>), and intercontinental contacts via transequatorial propagation (and F2 too?) during high sunspot periods.

Tony IOJX

Foyle & District Amateur Radio Club

Foyle & District Amateur Radio Club linked up with their counterparts in Newfoundland on the 75th anniversary of aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart's solo Atlantic crossing.

On May 21st. 1932, a little red airplane landed in Gallagher's field at Ballyarnett and the circumstance of fate gave Derry a unique place in the history of aviation. The pilot was a young American woman, Amelia Earhart who, some 14 hours earlier, had taken off from Harbor Grace airfield in Newfoundland en route for Paris and a place in the record books as the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic.

After a gruelling passage through unpredicted storms and with no contact with her back-up team and suffering engine problems, Amelia Earhart landed safely near a small farm cottage outside Derry.

The rest is history and as part of the renewed civic drive to ensure that the local aspect of her achievement is not forgotten, Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club arranged a live link-up with their counterparts in Newfoundland where the epic flight began.

It took place during two one and a half hour periods on the anniversary of the flight, Sunday 20th and Monday 21st May, from 8 - 9.30pm.

The amateur radio group in Conception Bay and Harbor Grace have added a further historic dimension to the event - they transmitted on vintage radio equipment from their local museum.

Civic dignitaries, including the Mayor of Harbour Grace, sent good wishes to the people of Derry.

TheClub will hold their annual rally on Sunday November 4th 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry.

The hotel is located 3 miles from Derry on main Limavady Road. Doors will open at 12.00 noon.

www.mn0aku.org.uk

Cork Radio Club

Annual General Meeting

Wed. September 5th 2007

Clifden Marconi Celebrations



Photo taken in the Abbey Glen Hotel in Clifden on the 30th May 2007 while preparations were been discussed for the upcoming 100th anniversary of the Clifden Marconi Station this October 17th

Front row: Guglielmo Marconi Giovanelli, Electra Marconi, Tom Frawley EI3ER

Back row: Coleman Shaughnessy (ex Marconi Radio Officer), Enda Broderick EI2II.

Marconi built his first high power transatlantic long wave wireless telegraphy station four miles south of the town of Clifden to minimize the distance to its sister station in Glace Bay Newfoundland.

The first point-to-point fixed wireless service connecting Europe with North America opened on 17th October 1907 and closed on 25th July 1922 after suffering serious damage in the Irish Civil War.

CDN was the callsign used from 1907 to 1913 and MFT was the callsign used from 1914-1922 .

Transatlantic wireless service formerly provided by the Clifden station was transferred to the more modern Marconi wireless station near Waunfawr, Wales.

At peak times, over 400 people had been employed by the Clifden wireless station.

Galway Radio Experimenters Club

Galway Radio Experimenters Club will run a special event station from Clifden as part of the 100th anniversary celebrations. The callsign applied for is EI100MFT.

A series of Marconi Centenary commemorative events are planned to take place from October 12th-17th 2007 in Clifden, co-ordinated by the Chamber of Commerce. Marconi's daughter, Princess Elettra, with her son, Prince Guglielmo, will preside over the festivities which include:

- International Royal Gala Ball
- Guided walks of the Marconi Station with archaeologist & historian, Michael Gibbons
- Operatic concert by 2007 Maria Callas Grand Prix winner, Celine Byrne
- The Connemara launch of Princess Elettra's book "Marconi - My Beloved"
- Lunchtime lecture series by noted Marconi historians
- Showings of Concetto LaMalfa's 2007 film about Guglielmo Marconi's impact on Connemara
- Exhibits from the Marconi Foundation in Bologna, Italy at the Clifden Station House Museum
- Vintage Car Rally.

Further information on www.clifden.ie

World Famous Radio Masts Demolished



Four radio masts which dominated the skyline on the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire border for 81 years have been demolished.

Explosives were used to knock down the 820ft (250m) high masts at the BT Rugby Radio Station which BT said were structurally unsafe.

Eight masts at the site were knocked down in a similar operation in June 2004.

BT said the masts had been superseded by satellite and other methods of communication.



Rugby Radio Station was opened on 1st January 1926 with the intention of broadcasting messages to the rest of the Commonwealth.

It allowed the first transatlantic phone calls to be made and was also used later to transmit signals to submarines when the MoD took it over during World War II.

The masts were also famous for transmitting the atomic clock signal, which allowed people all over the world to set the time precisely.

August 26th 2m Counties Contest

September 1/2nd SSB Field Day

September 29/30th CQIR Contest

Limerick Radio Club activate EI70FOY at Foynes to celebrate the 70th anniversary of first transatlantic Commercial Flying Boat



Brian EI9AL, John EI6IW, Maurice EI3JF, Alan EI8EM, Albert EI9IY, Dermot EI2GT, Simon EI7ALB, Tom EI5CA & Tony EI2AW



Alan EI8EM with Captain Patrick White and Brothers James, Kevin and Brendan Keane sons of Kevin EI8FI

On 5th July 1937 the first transatlantic commercial passenger survey flight took place from Botwood, Newfoundland and flew to Foynes, Ireland.

The Pan American Sikorsky S-42 B Flying Boat "Clipper III" was piloted by Captain Harold Gray and six crew. To commemorate the 70th anniversary of this amazing event a special re-enactment flight is planned by Captain Patrick White and his son Ian.

Mr. White has many years of flight experience as a pilot of flying boats. His family own and operate an active and growing multi-disciplined aviation company at the Gander International Airport.

Patrick and Ian flew their "Vintage Lady", a PBY Catalina Flying Boat, from Botwood, Newfoundland on the 5th July, landing at Foynes on the 6th July.

The arrival of the "Vintage Lady" kicked off the Foynes International Flying Boat Festival from 6th to the 8th of July 2007.

Special Event Station EI70FOY

Limerick Radio Club, founded in 1946, were invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative flight and the Festival.

A special call-sign, EI70FOY was allocated to the station.

The station was on the air from 6th to the 8th of July 2007 and was operated on all bands from 80 to 10 metres.

The station also operated on VHF / UHF and Echolink, using the above call-sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event.

QSL Information:

All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM @ QTHR.

Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at ei4lrc@eircom.net or at <http://www.qsl.net/ei4lrc>

Mayo Rally
Belmont Hotel
Knock, Co. Mayo
Sunday November 18th
Enquiries to Padraic EI9JA
on 087-6957154 (evenings)

Foyle and District ARC
Rally
Sunday November 4th 2007
White Horse Hotel, Derry,
3 miles from Derry on main Limavady Road
Midday start.
www.mn0aku.org.uk

Contest Calendar

All Times UTC

August 2007

26th	1300-1500	IRTS 2m Counties Contest	Phone/CW
25/26	1200-1159	SCC RTTY Championship	RTTY
25/26	1200-1200	YO DX Contest	CW/SSB

September 2007

1/2	1300-1259	IARU Region 1 SSB Field Day	SSB
1/2	0000-2400	All Asian DX	SSB
1	0000-2400	Russian RTTY WW Contest	RTTY
8/9	0000-2359	Worked All Europe DX	SSB
15/16	1200-1200	Scandinavian Activity Contest	CW
29/30	1200-1200	Ireland Calling Contest (CQIR)	CW/SSB
29/30	0000-2400	CQ WW RTTY DX	RTTY
29/30	1200-1200	TOEC WW Grid Contest	CW

October 2007

6/7th	0800-0800	Oceania Contest	Phone
6th	1600-1959	EU Autumn Sprint	SSB
7th	0700-1900	RSGB 21/28MHz Contest	CW/SSB
13/14th	0800-0800	Oceania DX Contest	CW
13th	1600-1959	EU Autumn Sprint	CW
27/28th	0000-2400	CQWW DX Contest	SSB
27/28th	0000-2359	ARRL International EME Contest	All

Amateur Satellite Beginners Article

The March 2007 issue of the RSGB magazine RadCom features a superb article entitled *'Getting Started on Amateur Radio Satellites'* by John Heath G7HIA.

It is an excellent introduction to the exciting world of Amateur Satellite Communications.

The Radio Society of Great Britain and the author have generously agreed to allow AMSAT-UK to put the PDF of the article on the web and it can be seen at <http://www.uk.amsat.org/>

Click on "How Do I Start" on the left hand side of the home page then click on "Getting Started on Amateur Satellites (RSGB article)"

Note the article is Copyright 2007 Radio Society of Great Britain.

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Tony EI5EM



Outgoing QSL Bureau

Please mail your cards
directly to the
Outgoing Bureau Manager:

Anthony Baldwin

EI8JK,

Rathlin, Kilcrohane,

Co. Cork.

ei8jk@amsat.org

Cork Radio Club

The 16th Cork Radio Rally

**will take place on
Sunday 23rd. Sept.
at**

The Blarney Park Hotel

**All the usual traders will be in attendance
including club stands and IRTS etc.**

Bring & Buy

Plenty of free parking

Food all day



**Lots of things to do in Blarney while
visiting the rally**

Shop in the famous Woollen Mills.

Visit Blarney Castle .

Have a family day out.

Doors open at 11a.m. sharp

So come along early and “bag a bargain”

Some table space still available

Contact Con on 021-4270136/086-1071312

See you there!

Members Advertisements

Kenwood TS-440S HF Transceiver
 Kenwood PS-50 Power supply
 Kenwood SP-430 Comms Speaker
 Kenwood MC-85 Comms Microphone
 Icom IC-207H UHF/VHF FM Transceiver
 Icom IC-746 HF/VHF All Mode Transceiver
 Emtron ED L-1000 1Kw DC/600MHz Dummy Load
 Emtron EP-2000 SWR & Power Meter 1.8 - 60MHz
 Primax Data Switch
 Watson W-30AM Regulated Power Supply
 Yamoto YS-130 (Automatic) Antenna Rotator
 Avair AV-200 1.8-160MHz SWR & Power Meter
 Uniden Bearcat. 100Ch, 9 band Radio Scanner
 Discone: Verticals: Magnetic Loop: Coax.
 Sundry Accessories: Mics/connection cables/connectors etc
 Interface Handbook Radio Examiners' Examination Manual
 WIFB's Help for New Hams: Radio Therapy Handbook
 Various CD's: Hard drive set up for radios
 Radio Magazines
 The majority of radios are in their original boxes with handbooks.
 Contact Catherine on 087-2836771

For Sale:

HF Linear Amplifier: 80-10m Drake L4B
 HF Verticals 80-10m Hy-Gain 18AVQ, Four available for 4 square array, V or crossed trapped dipoles
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Reading the Mail By Michael McNamara, EI2CL

Welcome to compilation #47 of "Reading the Mail", an account of IRTS incoming QSL Bureau activity from 2 April to 28 July 2007.

Small packets (less than 1 kg) came from 3A-buro, ARI, BFRR, CARS, FRR, G3TXF, IARC, IRA, JARL x2, the CE, DF, MG, PR, RJ and RS divisions of LABRE, REP, SARTS, SRAL, TA3YJ, TRAC, URA, USKA x2, UY0ZG, VE2 buro and WF5E-QSL service.

Heavier lots came from ARRL x 3, Dutch QSL buro, JARL, NNRL, ÖVSV, REF, RSGB, RX3RC, and SRR (2kg each), ARI, HRS, UARL and URE (3.9 kg each).

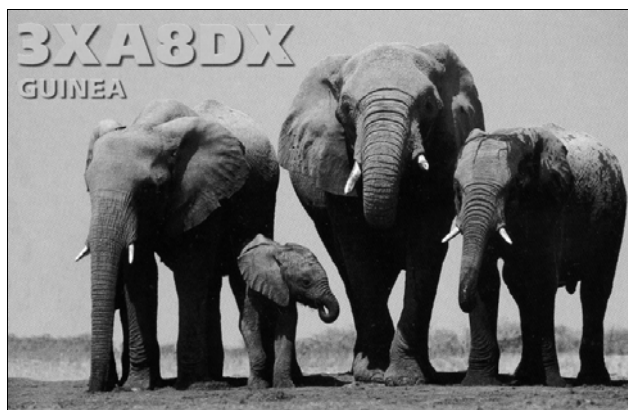
Cards from the following were thought worthy of mention: A7/G0MKT, EY8/UR0MC, EY0R, NN7ZZ, S21AM, T70A, T70COTA, TG/KA9FOX, TY22DX, XX9TUP, YN4SU/9, YU8/HB4FG, OE5RI/ZS6, 1A0KM, 3XD2Z, 4L/AJ3M, 5J1W, 5X1X, 7Z1ZZ and 9N7CQ.

For IOTA chasers, notables were HH4/K4QD, HK0/N2WB, HL8KSJ, JD1BLY, K5C, MM/N5ET/p, S9SS, T88CW, TC4ITU, UA1ONY, UA0ZC/p, V63UA, V95/IK2SGC, VQ9JC, VU4AN/VU3RWp, XR0X, XU7POS, ZL/W1CU, ZL7/KH0PR and 4S7PAG/p.

Congratulations to all recipients.

With that, and until my next report, all best wishes and lots of nice DX.

Michael McNamara, EI2CL



Wanted:

RF 4040 Rcvr/Exctr (part of U.S. military equipment) or 8 plug-in module cards for same.

Maybe someone can give me some information re same?

To Give Away: Nicely mounted schematic diagram for Yaesu Transceiver FTDX401.

I also have hundreds of radio magazines, Practical Wireless, Practical Electronics, etc. Willing to trade them for amateur radio equipment.

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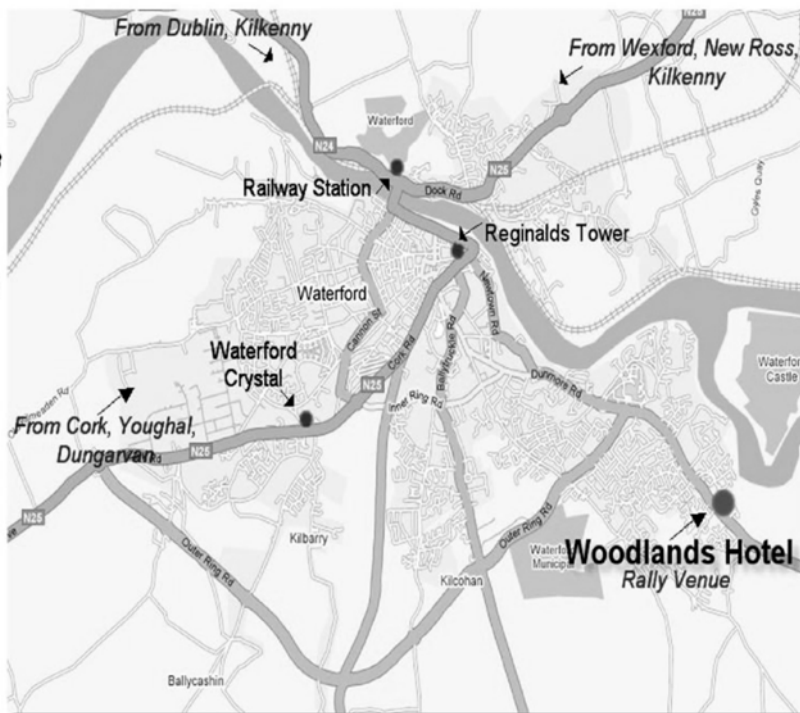
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Contact Information

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